



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***ROLE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN
THROUGH INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES IN SYLHET DISTRICT,
BANGLADESH***

AYSHA AKTER

FEM 2022 3



**ROLE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN
THROUGH INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES IN SYLHET
DISTRICT, BANGLADESH**

By

AYSHA AKTER

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,
in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

December 2021

COPYRIGHT

All material contained within the thesis, including without limitation text, logos, icons, photographs, and all other artwork, is copyright material of Universiti Putra Malaysia unless otherwise stated. Use may be made of any material contained within the thesis for non-commercial purposes from the copyright holder. Commercial use of material may only be made with the express, prior, written permission of Universiti Putra Malaysia.

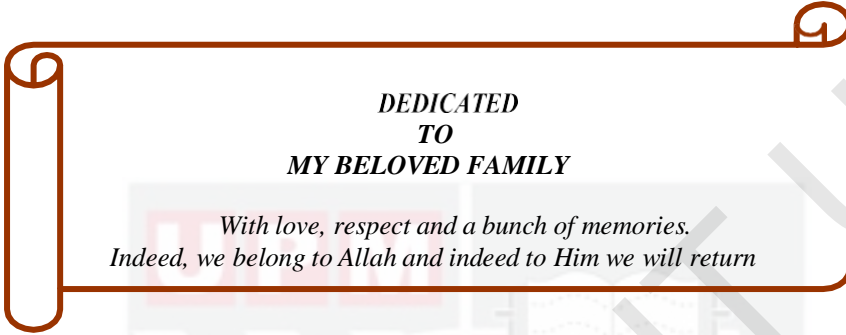
Copyright © Universiti Putra Malaysia



DEDICATION

**DEDICATED
TO
MY BELOVED FAMILY**

*With love, respect and a bunch of memories.
Indeed, we belong to Allah and indeed to Him we will return*



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**ROLE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN
THROUGH INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES IN SYLHET
DISTRICT, BANGLADESH**

By

AYSHA AKTER

December 2021

Chairman : Associate Professor Nobaya Ahmad, PhD
Faculty : Human Ecology

Social capital has been recognized as an essential towards empowering rural women in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh. It facilitates their engagement in various Income Generating Activities (IGAs) as means of empowerment. IGAs have therefore, become an essential empowerment tool among rural women in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh because it gives them expanded access to resources and enhanced capabilities for self-reliance at both individual and collective levels. Majority of women have very little chance to take part in intra-household activities, socio-economic activities and have limited inter-linkage with people due to social, cultural and religious restrictions. This thesis examined the role played by social capital and participation towards the empowerment of women through IGAs in Bangladesh with specific focus on rural women in Sylhet District, Bangladesh. Therefore, this study aims to: (i) to describe the demographic characteristics of rural women participating in different IGAs in Sylhet District of Bangladesh, (ii) to measure the dimensions of social capital, participation and levels of empowerment in IGAs among rural women in the District under study (iii) to examine the relationship between social capital, participation and women empowerment in the study area, (iv) to examine the impacts of social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) on psychological and financial assets among rural women in the study area, (v) to explore the effect of socio-demographic factors on women empowerment through IGAs in the study area, and (vi) to examine the present socio- economic challenges hindering women empowerment through IGAs in Sylhet District of Bangladesh.

This study is mainly a quantitative research, however, qualitative data were collected via a semi-structured interview for support and validation purpose. The study was conducted in two phases: quantitative survey which was followed by a qualitative interview. The study used questionnaire as its main instrument of quantitative data collection from a total of 328 randomly selected respondents. In the qualitative phase, the in-depth interview method was used for data collection and a total of twelve (12) informants were

purposely selected and interviewed. The Pearson correlation analysis was measured to explain the relationships between participation, social capital and women empowerment. A multiple linear regression analysis was also deployed to identify the highest contributing factors of social capital towards women empowerment by using SPSS version-22 software and the qualitative thematic analysis were done by Nvivo software.

Three proxies of social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) were measured in this study. The results show that more than 50% of the women had high levels of bonding. Bonding social capital was found to be the most contributing factor to women empowerment. The descriptive analysis of bridging social capital reveals that only 4.6% of the women were in the lower level of bridging social capital, with 40.4% being in the higher level of bridging and 55% in the moderate level. 63.2% of the women were in the lower level of linking, 30% had a moderate level and 6.8% had a high level of linking social capital. Participation in IGAs (subjective and objective) and bridging were also found to be significant in enhancing the women empowerment based on the results of the study. With regards to the psychological and financial dimensions of empowerment, the results indicate that level of bonding determines financial assets among rural women in the study area while the three dimensions of social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) altogether determines psychological assets among the rural women in South Surma Upazila of Sylhet district in Bangladesh. The data analysis showed that there is a significant relationship between participation, social capital and women empowerment in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh. The analysis equally indicated that among the socio-demographic factors, women's level of education, marital status, personal income, credit received, training received and participation in IGAs determines their levels of empowerment. Taken together the findings of this study suggested that bonding, bridging, and linking are directly related to empowerment of women who are participating in different IGAs.

The overall results indicated that the conceptualizations of bonding, bridging, linking and participation have provided a good understanding of empowerment among women as most of the findings appear to suggest. Since the level of bridging and linking among rural women ranged from medium to low levels, community development policy makers might focus on building and facilitating bridging and linking as dimensions of social capital in order to facilitate the empowerment of women in Bangladesh.

Abstrak tesis yang disampaikan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**PERANAN MODAL SOSIAL DALAM MENDAYAUPAYAKAN WANITA
LUAR BANDAR YANG TERLIBAT DALAM AKTIVITI PENJANAAN
PENDAPATAN DI DAERAH SYLHET, BANGLADESH**

Oleh

AYSHA AKTER

Disember 2021

Pengerusi : Profesor Madya Nobaya Ahmad, PhD
Fakulti : Ekologi Manusia

Modal sosial telah diiktiraf sebagai penting ke arah memperkasakan wanita luar bandar di Daerah Sylhet Bangladesh. Ia memudahkan penglibatan mereka dalam pelbagai Aktiviti Menjana Pendapatan (IGA) sebagai cara pemerksaan. Oleh itu, IGA telah menjadi alat pemerksaan penting dalam kalangan wanita luar bandar di Daerah Sylhet Bangladesh kerana ia memberikan mereka akses yang diperluas kepada sumber dan keupayaan yang dipertingkatkan untuk berdikari pada peringkat individu dan kolektif. Majoriti wanita mempunyai peluang yang sangat kecil untuk mengambil bahagian dalam aktiviti dalam rumah, aktiviti sosio-ekonomi dan mempunyai hubungan yang terhad dengan orang ramai disebabkan sekatan sosial, budaya dan agama. Untuk membasmi kemiskinan dalam kalangan wanita di Daerah Sylhet, memastikan pendapatan mereka adalah prasyarat penting yang membantu mewujudkan asas untuk perubahan sosial. Tesis ini mengkaji peranan yang dimainkan oleh modal sosial dan penyertaan ke arah pemerksaan wanita melalui IGA di Bangladesh dengan tumpuan khusus kepada wanita luar bandar di Daerah Sylhet, Bangladesh. Oleh itu, kajian ini bertujuan untuk: (i) untuk menerangkan ciri demografi wanita luar bandar yang menyertai IGA yang berbeza di Daerah Sylhet Bangladesh, (ii) untuk mengukur dimensi modal sosial, penyertaan dan tahap pemerksaan dalam IGA dalam kalangan wanita luar bandar di Daerah yang dikaji (iii) untuk mengkaji hubungan antara modal sosial, penyertaan dan pemerksaan wanita di kawasan kajian, (iv) untuk mengkaji kesan modal sosial (ikatan, merapatkan dan menghubungkan) ke atas aset psikologi dan kewangan dalam kalangan wanita luar bandar di kawasan kajian, (v) untuk meneroka kesan faktor sosio-demografi ke atas pemerksaan wanita melalui IGA di kawasan kajian, dan (vi) untuk mengkaji cabaran sosioekonomi semasa yang menghalang pemerksaan wanita melalui IGA di Daerah Sylhet Bangladesh.

Kajian ini menggunakan kuantitatif diikuti dengan temubual secara kualitatif untuk tujuan sokongan dan pengesahan. Kajian ini menggunakan soal selidik sebagai instrumen utama pengumpulan data kuantitatif daripada sejumlah 328 responden yang dipilih secara rawak. Dalam fasa kualitatif, kaedah temu bual mendalam digunakan untuk pengumpulan data dan seramai dua belas (12) orang informan telah dipilih dan ditemubual secara bertujuan. Analisis korelasi Pearson diukur untuk menjelaskan hubungan antara penyertaan, modal sosial dan pemeraksanaan wanita. Analisis regresi linear berganda juga telah digunakan untuk mengenal pasti faktor penyumbang tertinggi modal sosial ke arah pemeraksanaan wanita dengan menggunakan perisian SPSS versi-22 dan analisis tematik kualitatif dilakukan oleh perisian Nvivo.

Tiga proksi modal sosial (ikatan, merapatkan dan menghubungkan) diukur dalam kajian ini. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa lebih dari 50% wanita mempunyai tahap ikatan yang tinggi. Ikatan didapati sebagai faktor yang paling menyumbang kepada pemeraksanaan wanita. Analisis deskriptif merapatkan modal sosial mendedahkan bahawa hanya 4.6% daripada wanita berada pada tahap yang lebih rendah untuk merapatkan modal sosial, dengan 40.4% berada pada tahap yang lebih tinggi dan 55% dalam tahap sederhana. 63.2% daripada wanita berada pada tahap penghubung yang lebih rendah, 30% mempunyai tahap sederhana dan 6.8% mempunyai tahap modal sosial yang tinggi. Penyertaan dalam IGA (subjektif dan objektif) dan perapatan juga didapati signifikan dalam mempertingkatkan pemeraksanaan wanita. Berhubung dengan dimensi pemeraksanaan psikologi dan kewangan, keputusan menunjukkan tahap perapatan menentukan aset kewangan di kalangan wanita luar bandar di kawasan kajian manakala tiga dimensi modal sosial (perapatan, penyatuan dan penghubung) menentukan aset psikologi di kalangan wanita luar bandar. di Selatan Surma Upazila daerah Sylhet di Bangladesh. Analisis data menunjukkan terdapat hubungan yang signifikan antara penyertaan, modal sosial dan pemeraksanaan wanita di Daerah Sylhet Bangladesh.

Keputusan keseluruhan menunjukkan bahawa konsep pengikatan, penyambungan, pertautan dan penyertaan telah memberikan pemahaman yang baik tentang pemeraksanaan di kalangan wanita seperti yang dicadangkan oleh kebanyakan penemuan. Memandangkan tahap merapatkan dan menghubungkan dalam kalangan wanita luar bandar adalah dari tahap sederhana hingga rendah, penggubal dasar pembangunan masyarakat mungkin menumpukan pada membina dan memudahkan penyambungan dan penghubung sebagai dimensi modal sosial untuk memudahkan pemeraksanaan wanita di Bangladesh.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Al-hamdulillah. It is difficult if not impossible to acknowledge all who have in one way or the other contribution immensely to the successful completion of this study. First and foremost, my profound gratitude goes to almighty Allah (SWT) who has always given me health, support and infallible guide in all my undertakings.

My heartiest debt of gratitude goes to Organization for women in science for the developing world fellowship (OWSD) and The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) - 2015, for funding the Programme and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) for selecting me as a student in the PhD Programme.

I would like to express my deepest sense of gratitude, sincere appreciation and indebtedness to my supervisor, Associate Professor Dr. Nobaya Ahmad for her scholastic guidance, administrative support, valuable suggestions, constant encouragement and overall supervisions throughout the study that makes this dissertation real. Her wide knowledge and her logical way of thinking have been of great value to me. Her understanding and personal guidance have provided a good basis for the present thesis.

I am very much grateful to my co-supervisor Dr. Wan Munira wan Jaafar for her constructive criticism and guideline for writing up of this dissertation. I would like to express my cordial thanks to Dr. Dahlia Binti Zawawi for her cooperation and assistance during my study. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Professor Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Islam for his excellent technical support during statistical analysis. Their valuable comments and suggestions were stimulating and without help, this work would not have been completed in time.

I would like to acknowledge the contributions and cooperation of the women as a respondent's who had provided the information during long interview that was essential for success of this project. I sincerely acknowledge the cooperation and the help of the Upazila Agriculture Officer (UAO), Sub Assistant Agriculture officer (SAAO) and field staffs of the South Surma Upazila who assisted me actively in the field of data collection to see to the success of this research work.

During this work, I have collaborated with many friends and colleagues for whom I have great regard, and I wish to extend my warmest thanks to all those who have helped me with my thesis in the Department of Social and Development Science, Faculty of Human Ecology at the University of Putra Malaysia.

I would like to thank my family for all their love and encouragement. I am extremely grateful to my father Bashir Uddin Ahmed and my mother Siddika Ahmed for their faith in me and allowing me to be as ambitious as I wanted. It was under their watchful eye that I gained so much drive and an ability to tackle challenges head on. They are the most important people in my world, and I dedicate this thesis to them.

In addition, most of all to my loving, supportive, encouraging, and patient husband Professor Dr. Md. Monirul Islam (Sylhet Agricultural University, Bangladesh) whose faithful support during the stages of this Ph.D. is so much appreciated. He supported me in countless ways, giving me good advice and helping me all the time. I want to thank him sincerely. I also wish to thank my beloved boy Naimul Islam Nasif for doing his best to understand a mother who had to be confined to her study for such a long time. Thank you so much my dear boy for your inspiration and encouragement and being an integral part of my PhD research process.

And, finally, I want to give heartiest thanks to my aunty Mina Begum for her sacrifice, strong encouragement and moral support for take care of my 15-month baby boy during this research period.

Thanks, you all once again.

Best regards
Aysha Akter
Department of Social and Development Science
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia Malaysia

December, 2021

This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The members of the Supervisory Committee were as follows:

Nobaya binti Ahmad, PhD

Associate Professor
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Chairman)

Wan Munira binti Wan Jaffar, PhD

Senior Lecturer
Faculty of Human Ecology
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

Dahlia binti Zawawi, PhD

Associate Professor
School of Business and Economics
Universiti Putra Malaysia
(Member)

ZALILAH MOHD SHARIFF, PhD

Professor and Dean
School of Graduate Studies
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date: 19 May 2022

Declaration by Members of Supervisory Committee

This is to confirm that:

- the research conducted and the writing of this thesis was under our supervision;
- supervision responsibilities as stated in the Universiti Putra Malaysia (Graduate Studies) Rules 2003 (Revision 2012-2013) are adhered to.

Signature: _____

Name of Chairman
of Supervisory
Committee:

Associate Professor Dr. Nobaya binti Ahmad

Signature: _____

Name of Member
of Supervisory
Committee:

Dr. Wan Munira binti Wan Jaafar

Signature: _____

Name of Member
of Supervisory
Committee:

Dr. Dahlia binti Zawawi

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	i
ABSTRAK	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
APPROVAL	vii
DECLARATION	ix
LIST OF TABLES	xv
LIST OF FIGURES	xviii
LIST OF MAP	xix
LIST OF APPENDICES	xx
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xxi
CHAPTER	
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Research background	2
1.3 Problem statement	5
1.4 Research questions	8
1.5 Research objectives	8
1.6 Hypotheses of the study	9
1.7 Significance of the study	10
1.8 Scope of the study	10
1.9 Limitations of the study	11
1.10 Conceptual and operational denotation of terms	12
1.10.1 Social capital	12
1.10.2 Women's empowerment (WE)	13
1.10.3 Participation	14
1.10.4 Income-generating activities (IGAs)	15
1.11 Organisation of the thesis	15
2 LITERATURE REVIEW	16
2.1 Introduction	16
2.2 Sustainable development	16
2.3 Empowering women for sustainable development and poverty alleviation	17
2.4 Women's empowerment	17
2.4.1 Socio-demographic background of Bangladeshi women	20
2.4.2 Factors affecting the empowerment of rural women	22
2.4.3 Barriers to women's empowerment and participation in income-generating activities	23
2.5 Social capital	24
2.5.1 Social capital and the empowerment of rural	

	women	27
	2.5.2 Effects of social capital on empowerment	27
2.6	Participation and empowerment	29
2.7	Relation of income to empowerment	30
2.8	Relation of income-generating activities to the empowerment of women	31
2.9	Relationship between participation, social capital and empowerment	32
2.10	Theoretical underpinnings	32
2.11	Theoretical framework of the study	34
2.12	Empowerment theory	35
2.13	Social capital theory	36
2.14	Participation theory	39
2.15	Conceptual framework	41
2.16	Chapter summary	44
3	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	45
3.1	Introduction	45
3.2	Location of study area	45
3.3	Research design and approach of the study	48
3.4	Sampling design for the quantitative phase	49
	3.4.1 Sample size	49
	3.4.2 Sampling procedure	50
3.5	Unit of analysis	52
3.6	Data collection instruments	53
3.7	Measurement of antecedent variables	53
	3.7.1 Personal background	53
	3.7.2 Family background	54
	3.7.3 Socio-economic background	54
3.8	Measurement of independent variables	56
	3.8.1 Participation	56
	3.8.2 Social capital	57
3.9	Measurement of dependent variables	57
	3.9.1 Women's empowerment	57
3.10	Exploratory data analysis (EDA)	57
3.11	Testing the assumptions of multivariate analysis	58
3.12	Normality	58
3.13	Multicollinearity	59
3.14	Testing goodness of data	60
	3.14.1 Pilot testing	60
	3.14.2 Reliability tests	61
	3.14.3 Content validity	61
3.15	Data processing and analysis methods	62
	3.15.1 Data analysis techniques	62
	3.15.2 Descriptive statistics	62
	3.15.3 Pearson correlation	63
	3.15.4 Multiple regressions	63
3.16	Sampling design for qualitative phase	64
	3.16.1 Sampling strategy	64

3.16.2	Sample size	65
3.17	Qualitative approach	65
3.18	Key informant interviews	66
3.19	Interview guide	66
3.20	Interview	67
3.21	Saturation	68
3.22	Trustworthiness and credibility	68
3.23	Translation of research instruments	69
3.24	Validity and reliability	69
3.25	Qualitative data analysis procedure	70
3.26	Chapter summary	72
4	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	73
4.1	Introduction	73
4.2	Objective 1: To describe the demographic characteristics of rural women participating in different IGAs in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh	73
4.2.1	Demographic profiles of the women	73
4.2.1.1	Personal background	74
4.2.1.2	Family background	75
4.2.1.3	Socio-economic background	76
4.3	Objective 2: To measure the dimensions of social capital, participation and levels of empowerment in IGAs with rural women participants in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh	81
4.3.1	Social capital	81
4.3.1.1	Bonding, bridging and linking social capital	81
4.3.2	Participation	87
4.3.3	Empowerment of women	92
4.3.3.1	Psychological empowerment	92
4.3.3.2	Financial empowerment	93
4.4	Objective 3: To examine the relationship between social capital, participation and women's empowerment in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh	96
4.4.1	Relationship between social capital dimensions and empowerment	97
4.4.2	Correlation between social capital and empowerment	97
4.4.3	The relationship between subjective participation and women's empowerment	98
4.4.4	The relationship between objective participation and empowerment	99
4.4.5	The relationship between participation (total) and (total) WE	99
4.5	Objective 4: To examine the impacts of social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) on financial assets and psychological assets among rural women in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh	102
4.5.1	Social capital dimensions and financial	

	empowerment	102
4.5.2	Social capital dimensions and psychological empowerment	104
4.6	Objective 5: To explore the effects of socio-demographic factors on women's empowerment involving IGAs in Sylhet, Bangladesh	109
4.6.1	Personal background and empowerment	109
4.6.2	Family background and empowerment	110
4.6.3	Socio-economic background and empowerment	111
4.7	Summary of hypotheses results	114
4.8	Objective-6: To examine the present socio-economic challenges hindering women's empowerment through IGAs in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh	115
4.9	Chapter Summary	119
5	CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH	120
5.1	Introduction	120
5.2	Key findings and conclusions of the research	120
5.3	Implications	127
5.3.1	Implications for community development as a field of study	127
5.3.2	Implications for policymakers	128
5.4	Recommendations	129
5.4.1	Recommendations for practice	129
5.4.2	Recommendations for future research	129
5.5	Chapter summary	130
	REFERENCES	131
	APPENDICES	168
	BIODATA OF STUDENT	218
	LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	220

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
2.1	Social capital theories	37
3.1	The distribution of population and sample in (18) villages under three (3) unions of South Surma Upazila of the Sylhet District in Bangladesh with a reserved list	52
3.2	Measurement of Personal Background	54
3.3	Measurement of family background	54
3.4	Measurement of socio-economic background	55
3.5	Descriptive analysis of the empowerment variables	58
3.6	Descriptive analysis of social capital variables	59
3.7	Descriptive analysis of participation variables	59
3.8	The values of tolerance and variance inflation factors (VIF) for the variables	60
3.9	Cronbach's alpha reliability test	61
3.10	Strength of the <i>r</i> -value	63
4.1	Personal background profiles of the women	74
4.2	Family background profiles of the women	75
4.3	Socio-economic backgrounds of the women	76
4.4	Rank order of involvement by women in IGAs	80
4.5	Informants Profiles	81
4.6	Level of bonding, bridging and linking social capital (n=328)	82
4.7	Types of participation (subjective participation and objective participation) (N=328)	88
4.8	Level of participation (N=328)	89
4.9	Psychological empowerment of women	92

4.10	Financial empowerment of women	93
4.11	The dimensions of empowerment and their levels (n=328)	94
4.12	Pearson correlation between social capital dimensions and the empowerment of women	97
4.13	Pearson correlation between empowerment and social capital	98
4.14	Pearson correlation between subjective participation and empowerment	98
4.15	Pearson correlation between objective participation and empowerment	99
4.16	Relationship between (total) participation and (total) empowerment	99
4.17	Correlation between social capital dimensions and financial assets	103
4.18	Standard regression model summary	103
4.19	ANOVA for regression	104
4.20	Estimation of coefficients for the model	104
4.21	Pearson correlation between social capital dimensions and psychological assets	105
4.22	Summary of standard regression model	105
4.23	ANOVA for regression significance	106
4.24	Guesstimate of coefficients for model	106
4.25	Summary of standard regression	110
4.26	ANOVA: regression significance	110
4.27	Determine of coefficients for the model	110
4.28	Standard regression model	111
4.29	ANOVA for regression significance	111
4.30	Measurement of coefficients for the model	111
4.31	Standard regression model	112
4.32	ANOVA for regression	112

4.33	Estimates of the coefficients for the model	113
4.34	Summary of testifying the research hypotheses of the study	114
4.35	Rank order of constrictions faced by rural women involved in IGAs (n =328)	115
4.36	Categorisation of women depending on overall limitations	116



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
2.1 The Summary of Social Capital Dimension Based on Cognitive and Structural Division	26
2.2 Theoretical framework of the study	41
2.3 Conceptual framework of the study	43



LIST OF MAP

Map		Page
1	Research in Bangladesh	46
2	Sylhet District, showing the locale of the study	47
3	South Surma (Dakshin Surma) Upazila, showing the locale of the study	47



LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix		Page
A	Research Questionnaire	168
B	Letters of Introduction, Getting Permission and Notification of the Current Research to Carry on Data Collection	183
C	Sample Transcripts	186
D	Themes and Sub	202
E	Distribution of Normality	204
F	Some Field Study Photographs Research Uni	214
G	Name of the Respondents in English	215

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASA	Association for Social Advancement
BNF	Bangladesh NGO Foundation (BNF)
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
CA	Collective Action
CI	Constraint Index
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension
EDA	Exploratory Data Analysis
FA	Financial Assets
FE	Financial Empowerment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GB	Grameen Bank
GO	Government Organization
HIV	Human Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IGAs	Income Generating Activities
IGAsI	Income Generating Activities Index
MMR	Mixed Method Research
NGO	Non-Government Organization
PA	Psychological Assets
PE	Psychological Empowerment

SC	Social Capital
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
SAAO	Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officers
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
SUS	Sabalamby Unnayan Samity
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VIF	Variance Inflation Factor
WB	World Bank
WE	Women's Empowerment
WFP	World Food Program
WO	Women's Organization

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter of the thesis presents the introduction and background of the research, the research problem, research questions and the objectives of the study. Other aspects also presented in this chapter include the hypotheses of the study, their significance, scope and limitations, along with operational and conceptual definitions of key terms related to the study.

1.1 Introduction

The need to empower weak and vulnerable social groups, such as women, to eradicate poverty is now considered essential for community development. This is evident by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations (UN) member states in 2015, popularly known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (UN, 2015). The SDGs are seventeen (17) global goals serving as urgent calls to action for all countries. The goals recognise the need for ending poverty and all its ramifications (Goal No. 1).

In line with the first goal of the SDGs, Bangladesh has developed strategies aimed at empowering local rural women by setting up various income-generating activities that seek to improve their living conditions, as well as enable them to have easier access to resources (Samah *et al.*, 2011; Shariful Islam & Mainuddin, 2015 & Mahboob M.A. *et al.*, 2017). The government of Bangladesh launched the Bangladesh NGO Foundation (BNF) in order to promote poverty alleviation and gender balancing efforts, which it aimed to achieve through BNF grants and collaborations with NGOs (Mahboob M. A. *et al.*, 2017). As such, this study is particularly focused on the success of these poverty alleviation strategies among the rural women of the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.

Women's empowerment involves the process of attempting to help people directly by reducing poverty and increasing their income levels for a better standard of living (Liao, H., 2018). It is the capacity of an individual's income and assets that dictates the way they live. According to (Donaghey & Reinecke, 2018), empowerment significantly increases the empowered women's knowledge, skills, adoption of contemporary management technology and access to financial services (Hasan *et al.*, 2015; Parvin *et al.*, 2005; Shariful Islam & Mainuddin, 2015). However, empowerment can only be achieved when the community works together to actively fight for the welfare of the community (Siddiqi, 2017; Ashraf & Prentice, 2019).

Social capital is considered an important tool in facilitating community activities for the empowerment of women, as well as for the sustainable development of a country, because it represents the productive benefits of sociability (Liao, H., 2018; Cancino, C., 2017). Previous studies have demonstrated how income-generating activities (IGAs) are the best tools for empowering women (Samah *et al.*, 2011). Participation in different IGAs is the primary method for a community to improve its quality of life. Women's empowerment, in terms of poverty alleviation through IGAs, refers to a series of actions which can produce mutual benefit for organisations, communities and individuals (Hasan, *et al.*, 2015; Jabeen *et al.*, 2020 & Zimmerman, 1995). Members' participation in IGAs plays a vital role in the failure or success of an organisation.

Women's participation is vital for an organisation (i.e. different government organisations (GO) and non-government organizations (NGOs) to gain credit (Hasan *et al.*, 2015).

The current research aims to investigate the role of social capital in empowering rural women through IGA-participation in rural areas of Sylhet, Bangladesh. Thus, this research was carried out based on the current position of social capital, participation and women's empowerment involving different IGAs in Sylhet to analyse the relationship between them.

1.2 Research background

The concept of women's empowerment is used to understand the changes needed to improve the living conditions of poor, vulnerable and powerless women. The situation of women, particularly in the Third World and developing countries (e.g. Bangladesh), is not very encouraging. They have fewer opportunities and less decision-making power in their lives compared to men. There are many reasons for the disempowerment of women in developing countries. One of the major reasons is poverty. Bangladeshi women are considered to be poor in the financial world, with the percentage of women living in poverty being at 38% (ADB, 2009).

In this society, men are considered the breadwinners of the family. Women experience, and recognise, a distinction between them and their male counterparts in terms of birth; rearing of children; rights to education; employment opportunities; and privileges of decision-making in their families as well as in society. Women are a vital part of, and play a significant role in, society, and are an important part of the nation building process (Basnet, Adhikari & Krishna Prasad, 2001). All over the world, the contributions of women to the development process are gradually increasing. Women's empowerment denotes multi-dimensional action by women who are aware of their identity and empowerment in all disciplines of life (Hossain, 2018; Kamal *et al.*, 2015). In recent decades, women's empowerment has been acknowledged as a pivotal tool for the reduction of poverty, and for combating developmental issues (Streatfield *et al.*, 2015; Kamal *et al.*, 2015 & Hossain, 2017). The empowerment of women leads to individual

and groups of women being able to capably create effective options and outcomes for themselves (Alsop, Bertelsen & Holland, 2006).

Women's empowerment is a process, and sustainable development encompasses the socio-cultural, economic and environmental aspects of this process, thus covering an enormous domain (Streatfield *et al.*, 2015; Kamal *et al.*, 2015 & Hossain, 2017). This is reflected in the areas of poverty reduction in the Millennium Development Goals. UNDP coordinates global and national efforts to integrate women's empowerment into poverty reduction; democratic governance; crisis prevention and recovery; and environmental and sustainable development (Ashraf & Prentice, 2019). The SDGs, otherwise known as the Global Goals, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. UNDP focuses on poverty reduction and women's empowerment not only as human rights, but also as a pathway to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development (Moazzem & Arfanuzzaman, 2018; Razavi, 2016; Hossain, 2017 & Nazneen, 2018).

Social capital is a procedure of obtaining support and resources, along with social relations and networks (Siddiqi, 2015). Social capital plays a key role in empowering poor women (Woolcock & Narayan, 2002). Women's empowerment, along with social capital, are involved in the discourse of development in society, since they enhance both the quality and quantity of human resources available (Merigo, J.M. 2017; Cancino, C., 2017 & Huo, A.Y, 2017). Among women who are marginalised from entry to resources, ownership of social capital acts as an essential catalyst to attaining higher levels of empowerment (Magigi & Godfrey, 2015; Yount *et al.*; 2018). Social capital acts as an important tool for the reduction of poverty and aids the long-term development of the country (World Bank, 2002). The first initiative taken to understand the relation of social capital to women's empowerment was a report called the World Development Report (World Bank, 2001). In recent decades, social capital and women's empowerment studies have focused on developmental issues (Christiaan Grootaert & Bastelaer, 2002, 2006).

There are three different forms of social capital: (1) Bonding, which touches on close relationships, like members of a family; (2) bridging, which are relationships between parties of different socio-economic status and/or ethnicity; and (3) linking, which refers to relationships with those in power (Woolcock, 2002). Bonding social capital refers to the relationships that we have with people who are like us, and typically refers to the relations among family members and ethnic groups. Bonding social capital can serve a useful function by providing a vital source of support to the rural women who suffer from various socio-economic hardships, and face problems in participating in different income-generating activities (Zulfiqar, B., 2017; Zomorrodian, A., 2016; Roberts, A., 2015). Bonding social capital tends to help the rural women 'get by' and provides them with the norms and trust which facilitate their involvement in income-generating activities, as well as collaborative action (Turner, S.G., & Maschi, T.M., 2015). Bridging refers to those relationships we have with people who are not like us. These may be people who are from a different socio-economic status, from a different generation or a different ethnicity. Bridging social capital allows women of different groups to share and

exchange information related to income activities, as well as GOs' and NGOs' credit facilities. The different ideas and innovations the various groups of rural women have builds consensus among them, representing the diverse interests of women's empowerment and poverty reduction in a society (Moldavanova, A., & Goerdel, H.T., 2018).

Linking social capital involves social relations with those in authority that can be used to access resources or power. It is very important to have an appropriate balance of all types of social capital in a society. Linking social capital enables individuals and community groups to leverage resources, ideas and information from formal institutions beyond their immediate community radius (Gajdova, D., & Majduchova, H., 2018). Through bonding, bridging and linking social capital, individuals and groups of women can expand their access to resources, and thereby address their own needs or interests. An understanding of these three dimensions of social capital, and engagement in various income-generating activities by women, may enlarge our understanding of community development, as well as achieve sustainable developmental goals (Merigo, J.M., 2017; Blanco-Mesa, 2017; Erkens, M., 2015; Reyes-Gonzalez, 2016). Ideally in a community, there should be a good balance between bonding, bridging and linking social capital, otherwise social fragmentation may occur.

(Alsop, Bertelsen & Holland, 2006) established a novel structure to determine the empowerment of women by the World Bank. According to this structure, the six (6) dimensions used to gauge empowerment are psychological, financial, human, informational, organisational and material. Psychological and financial dimensions are the leading determinants for individual women's empowerment. The access to psychological and financial assets is also regarded as financial and psychological empowerment. Financial assets are considered the foundation of material dimensions. Financial empowerment of women includes women's ability to participate equally in economic decision-making. Psychological assets assist people by increasing assets that are found in the community and mobilising individuals, associations and institutions to come together to realise and develop their strengths.

Successive Bangladeshi governments have formulated policies regarding women's empowerment, integrating it into their overall priorities and respecting their commitments to global development goals. Since 1995, Bangladesh has been making strides in translating lofty promises into actions, having shaped its original women's development policies and plans of action in line with the BPA. To move forward, we must take stock of the progress and shortfalls in realizing the goals that Bangladesh set for women's empowerment. Successive governments have continued to make gender responsiveness an essential element in long-term national development schemes. Women's issues were mainstreamed into key development strategies, such as the Five-Year Plans, Vision-2021 and Vision-2041. In the aftermath of the historic Beijing conference, the government formulated the National Women's Development Policy and the National Plan of Action, keeping with the spirit of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The policy and plan were both subsequently enriched, reflecting on the outcomes of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Twenty-Third Special

Session of the General Assembly, the 2030 Agenda for Development and (SDG 1 & SDG 5). Consistent with these strategies and policies, the government also strove to tackle challenges like child marriage, violence against women, trafficking and other crimes by enacting appropriate laws. Apart from enacting and enforcing laws, the government, in partnership with the civil society, has worked to generate social awareness about these vices.

Social capital, its impact on empowerment and the benefits of IGAs on it are studied well in developed countries, but such types of research are sparse in developing countries like Bangladesh. Therefore, it is expected that the current research could provide information on the impact of social capital on women's empowerment through IGAs in developing countries like Bangladesh.

1.3 Problem statement

Almost half of the total population in Bangladesh is female, and 80% of them are living in rural areas (Agricultural Diary, 2007; Hossain, 2017; Hickey *et al.*, 2015 & Kabeer *et al.*, 2018). In rural areas, poverty is engulfing women, who face many challenges in sustaining their livelihood (Donaghey & Reinecke, 2018; Khan & Wichterich, 2015 & Siddiqi, 2017). Due to social, cultural and religious restrictions, women's work is restricted in Bangladesh. Majority of women have very little chance to take part in intra-household activities, socio-economic activities and have limited inter-linkage with people (Razavi, 2016; Nazneen, 2018; Kabeer *et al.*, 2018 & Siddiqi, 2015). These factors are responsible for limiting women's involvement in income-generating activities and acquiring knowledge, skills and income. The topic of women's empowerment in poverty alleviation is one of the important studies, especially since the establishment of gender equality and women's empowerment as one of the main points of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Investments with gender equality result in the highest returns that involve almost all the development scope (OECD, 2008). Women usually invest a higher proportion than men, especially in matters relating to family and social life of the community. Poverty alleviation is directly linked to economic empowerment, it is actually the type of individual associated with empowerment plus the first step towards empowering women. It is acknowledged that women's empowerment is needed in relation to economic growth and sustainable poverty reduction. The conception of women's empowerment is used to understand the conditions of impoverished and impoverished poor women. In developing countries, there are many reasons to weaken women. Controls are exhibited by men over women, men over men, and by dominant social, economic and political classes over the less powerful.

Women's empowerment is necessary for the enhancement of a society, since it increases both the quantity and quality of human resources for the development of a community (Kamal *et al.*, 2015; Siddiqi, 2017; Fakir, 2008 & DFID, 2000). Women's empowerment is not only necessary; it has become imperative now. Nowadays, Bangladesh thinks women's participation is key for the empowerment of women, and they are seen as the main drivers to remodelling the country, ranking from low to middle income (Khatun,

2018; Hossain, 2017; Hossain, 2018 & Nazneen, 2018). In a developing country like Bangladesh, empowerment among women is really needed for the enhancement of the community and society throughout the country (Hasan & Nazneen, 2017). In order to achieve the full advantages of poverty eradication, there is a need for both formal and informal financial institutions to cooperate with one another as partners in developing countries such as Bangladesh.

Previous studies, such as (Hasan *et al.*, 2015), have shown that rural women in Bangladesh are faced with many issues, such as lack of support from family, lack of approval from husbands and the limitations set for them by religious and cultural factors (bonding), which hinders their participation in IGAs (bridging), thereby limiting their relationship with government organisations and NGOs (linkage). These issues have hindered rural women's participation in IGAs and empowerment programs, particularly in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.

Social capital, along with the empowerment of women, is an important subject entering the discourses of development (Magigi & Godfery, 2015). For the reduction of poverty, the long-term development of society and the empowerment of women, social capital is one of the most important elements needed to be considered (Ratha, D., Eigen-Zucchi, C. & Plaza, S., 2016). Social capital forms connections with networks, and sets the values and norms for organisations (Blanco-Mesa, 2017). Some researchers have also reported that social capital allows for the sharing of information, facilitates collective decision-making and mitigates opportunistic behaviour among people who promote social, economic and political developments (Erkens, M., 2015; Cancino, C., 2017 & Liao, H., 2018). Through social capital, groups of rural people become efficient in performing blooming jobs, such as resource management, mobilisation, role-making, communication and coordination with others (Zomorrodian, A. 2016; Roberts, A., 2015 Zulfiquar, B., 2017). People who work together towards a common goal, and who trust each other, function more effectively as a team than communities, which lack social capital (Poteete & Ostrom, 2004; Khatun, 2018). Social capital is an important component for the empowerment of women (Turner, S.G. & Maschi, T.M., 2015).

For the elimination of poverty among women in the Sylhet District, ensuring their income is an essential precondition (Ahmed, 2009; Al-Amin, 2008; Fakir, 2008; DFID, 2000) that helps create a basic foundation for social change. In a family, the income of women plays a significant role in their economical, educational and nutritional improvement. Access to economic independence or self-induced income may be considered the best path towards women's empowerment (Zulfiquar, B., 2017). Income strategy is recommended by the government to enable women to do something by themselves (Adams, 2017). Therefore, IGAs lead to empowerment by creating opportunities for self-employment and raising the standard of living. Unfortunately, the engagement in such programs by the targeted rural women has become a problem due to socio-cultural and economic factors which limit their participation. Participation in IGAs can only be successful if the rural women are psychologically and financially empowered. Thus, participation in IGAs is a key instrument aimed at the alleviation of poverty among women (Streatfield *et al.*, 2015). Moreover, previous studies on rural

women's empowerment show that the availability of income for women is an essential precondition for the elimination of poverty (Esquivel & Swetman, 2016; Moazzem & Arfanuzzaman, 2018; Nazneen, 2019).

In this context, the SDGs seek to change the course of the 21st century by addressing key challenges, such as poverty among women. Numerous programs have been established to tackle this problem, and the engagement of rural women in IGAs (where different skills are taught to them) stands out as one of the most effective programs, providing additional benefits that include contributing towards the reduction of poverty, as well as improving the wellbeing of rural communities (Khatun, 2018 & Hossain, 2018). Despite the efforts made by GOs and NGOs, the extent of poverty among rural women in the Sylhet District remains a serious challenge for the women and government of Bangladesh (Hasan, *et. al.*, 2015).

Some of the research gaps aimed to be filled by this study are presented here. For the development of a community as well as society, understanding the impact social capital has on a woman's psychological and financial assets is paramount to empowering her. Some previous studies related to social capital considered only the bonding and bridging aspects of it (Quisumng & Mcclafferty, 2006). As such, this research could contribute an additional element in its study of the linking effect of social capital on empowerment. Some researchers have studied the bonding and bridging of social capital in diverse groups, like the disabled community, residents of the slums, as well as women, and in different organisations (Christoforou, 2010). However, research involving all three dimensions of social capital are scarce, particularly among women. Therefore, understanding the combined effects of bonding, bridging and linking on women's empowerment is necessary, as it expands the body of information focusing on the effect of social capital on women's empowerment.

Although social capital and participation are the fundamentals on which IGA groups have been founded upon, and they are strongly contributing to women's empowerment, serious attention has not been given to participation, social capital and their potential influence on women's empowerment in the field of research. Issues were neglected in previous studies involving different IGAs in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.

Considering the above presumptions, the present study is going to answer the following question: what is the relationship between social capital, participation in IGAs and women's empowerment in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh? Therefore, this research aims to analyse the situation of participation and social capital among members of IGA groups and their influence on empowering women, with the additional intent of investigating the impact of socio-demographic factors on women's empowerment and the relationship between them.

1.4 Research questions

1. What are the demographic characteristics of rural women participating in different IGAs in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh?
2. What are the dimensions of social capital, participation and levels of empowerment in IGA groups with rural women participants in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh?
3. Is there any relationship between social capital, participation and women's empowerment in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh?
4. What are the impacts of social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) on the psychological and financial assets of the rural women in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh?
5. What are the effects of socio-demographic factors on women's empowerment through IGAs in Sylhet, Bangladesh?
6. What are the present socio-economic challenges hindering women's empowerment through IGAs in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh?

1.5 Research objectives

The main aim of the research is to examine the role of social capital in empowering rural women through income-generating activities in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh. The specific objectives are as follows:

Specific objectives

- 1 To describe the demographic characteristics of rural women participating in different IGAs in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.
- 2 To measure the dimensions of social capital (bonding, bridging and linking), participation and levels of empowerment in IGAs with rural women participants in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.
- 3 To examine the relationship between social capital, participation and women's empowerment in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.
- 4 To examine the impacts of social capital on psychological assets and financial assets among rural women in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.
- 5 To explore the effects of socio-demographic factors on women's empowerment involving IGAs in Sylhet, Bangladesh.
- 6 To examine the present socio-economic challenges hindering women's empowerment through IGAs in the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.

1.6 Hypotheses of the study

H1: There is a positive and significant relationship between social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) and women's empowerment involving IGAs.

H1. a.. There is a positive and significant relationship between bonding social capital and women's empowerment involving IGAs.

H1. b.. There is a positive and significant relationship between bridging social capital and women's empowerment involving IGAs.

H1. c There is a positive and significant relationship between linking social capital and women's empowerment involving IGAs.

H2: There is a positive and significant relationship between participation and women's empowerment involving IGAs.

H2. a.. There is a positive and significant relationship between subjective participation and women's empowerment involving IGAs.

H2. b.. There is a positive and significant relationship between objective participation and women's empowerment involving IGAs.

H3: Social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) has a significant impact on the financial assets of women involved in IGAs.

H3. a.. There is a significant impact of bonding social capital on the financial assets of women involved in IGAs.

H3. b.. There is a significant impact of bridging social capital on the financial assets of women involved in IGAs.

H3. c.. There is a significant impact of linking social capital on the financial assets of women involved in IGAs.

H4: Social capital (bonding, bridging and linking) has a significant impact on the psychological assets of women involved in IGAs.

H4. a.. There is a significant impact of bonding social capital on the psychological assets of women involved in IGAs.

H4. b.. There is a significant impact of bridging social capital on the psychological assets of women involved in IGAs.

H4. c.. There is a significant impact of linking social capital on the psychological assets of women involved in IGAs.

1.7 Significance of the study

The present research will discover theoretical and practical knowledge on bonding, bridging and linking social capital that will aid the progress of women's empowerment. Hence, the study will provide information on scientific knowledge related to participation, social capital and women's empowerment, particularly surrounding the community development of Sylhet, Bangladesh. The study of social capital carries the possibility of securing a higher degree of empowerment for women, and improving the livelihoods of rural women (Razavi, 2016; Nazneen, 2018).

Furthermore, this research could provide in-depth knowledge about the challenges rural women face, and report on financial and psychological assets from the perspective of social capital. Recognising the effect of social capital on the empowerment of women is essential, and this research could help women improve their economic and social functions in life, as well as help them properly implement their role in social planning and policymaking.

In terms of practical application, the findings of the study will benefit stakeholders related to the reduction of poverty and empowerment of women, as well as help them achieve sustainable developmental goals (Esquivel & Swetman, 2016). The broad community that will utilise the findings of the research includes women, both those involved with various IGAs and those not; natives; policymakers; government officials; academicians; and government and non-government organisations. It is hoped that the findings of this research will contribute to existing literature in the field of women's empowerment, and assist in determining the real problems underlying this mass issue. Any new factors found to affect the bonding, bridging and linking of social capital in participating in various IGAs would be a unique contribution towards women's empowerment. In recent times, microcredit has become a good tool for reducing poverty. In this regard, the question has arose whether there exists a relationship between it, empowerment, income and poverty. Credit and empowerment have a beneficial relationship (Razavi, 2016), where it can be said that credit can empower women. Moreover, income and poverty have a significant relationship with credit. After taking credit, income can be increased and, resultantly, poverty reduced. Knowledge of the obstacles faced by rural women and suggestions for women's empowerment will be beneficial for policymakers to plan future policies more efficiently and effectively. Identifying factors that influence social capital's impact on women's empowerment will help empowerment educators find what most affects women psychologically and financially.

1.8 Scope of the study

Exploring the effects of the three dimensions of bonding, bridging and linking social capital, and engagement in various IGAs among rural women, will enhance the aspects of women's empowerment. Findings of the research will provide understanding of the theoretical and practical impact the three dimensions of bonding, bridging and linking

social capital have on empowerment. This study will also have not only theoretical implications, but also practical implications for empowerment policy planners to consider the essential needs of poor women.

Findings of the research may be beneficial for decision-making and policy formulation for various organisations related to women. The outcomes of the research could be used as a guideline for policy planners, who deal with community enhancement for the development of rural areas in Bangladesh. The outcomes of the research will be valuable material for those persons who wish to find ways of empowering women in rural areas.

This research will be of special importance to policy planners who work in the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Bangladesh, as well as other countries dealing with IGAs. In addition to this, the outcomes could be beneficial for donors of different national and international organisations that promote women's empowerment through participation in various IGAs in rural areas of developing countries like Bangladesh. This research also provides suggestions for future research.

1.9 Limitations of the study

Several limitations should be addressed regarding this study. The first limitation concerns the adaptation of the World Bank framework of social capital, and the prediction on the empowerment of women. While the World Bank framework assesses empowerment via six aspects, the present study was limited to assessing just two dimensions. However, from a review of previous studies, the importance of psychological and financial assets were revealed as the main bases of women's empowerment, hence, the prioritisation of these two dimensions in the present research (Butler & Council, 2005; Hoque & Itohara, 2009; ADB, 2007).

Another limitation of this study is the issue of empowerment among women. Most previous studies (Christoforou, 2010; Al-Amin, 2008) on empowerment concerned women, people with disabilities and even organisational empowerment. In addition to those, most of them focused on factors such as self-efficacy, self-esteem and socio-economic background. However, in terms of empowerment assets among women, this research is the first to study the effects of bonding, bridging and linking social capital on women's empowerment regarding their financial and psychological assets. Based on the theoretical issues considered by this study's researchers, the conclusion was drawn that psychological and financial assets are the key perspectives from which women's empowerment should be considered.

Another limitation of the study concerns its sample and respondents. The main limitation was the statistics of the number of women in Sylhet, Bangladesh. Only women who were engaged in IGAs were considered as respondents for the study.

Though much research has been conducted on social capital, participation and women's empowerment, there remains a scant amount of research dedicated to exploring the bonding, bridging and linking (three dimensions) of social capital and their relationship with women's empowerment. There is some research on the bonding and bridging effects of social capital on empowerment, but these are chiefly based on the health issues faced by women. Research of bonding, bridging and linking are rare.

Other limitations are related to the norms of rural areas, where women do not feel comfortable speaking with strangers. In most circumstances, they declined to join the survey. It was difficult to engage them during the interview. The researchers spent at least two weeks explaining and discussing, to the women as well as the community leaders, that the data collection for this research would not cause trouble for them and would be treated with utmost secrecy.

1.10 Conceptual and operational denotation of terms

1.10.1 Social capital

Conceptual: Social capital is defined as the act of providing human value through social activities and social networks, mutual relationships, commitment and trust, which provide safety for people during difficult times (Berzina, 2011). It also refers to institutions, relationships, norms and values, which build the quantity and quality of societal relationships (Fukuyama, 2002).

Operational: In the context of this study, social capital refers to social networks (relations), trust and solidarity that may facilitate access to resources and social support. As indicated by the theoretical review, social capital, in the context of women in IGAs, consists of three dimensions, which are bonding, bridging, and linking (Berzina, 2011).

1.10.1 (a) Bonding social capital: In this study, bonding refers to ties between people in similar situations and relationships, such as family, friends and neighbours who share similar demographic features. Women usually trust other women who share the same social background, and develop interactions easily. The survey was quantitatively measured using 7 items with a 5-point Likert scale (1= strongly disagree to 5= strongly agree). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed in (Hamidrez Babaei, 2012).

1.10.1 (b) Bridging social capital: In the context of this study, bridging refers to the relationship between groups of women involved in income-generating activities to create a broader connection to enlarge their opportunities. It was quantitatively measured using 7 items with a 5-point Likert scale (1= strongly disagree to 5= strongly agree). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed in (Hamidrez Babaei, 2012).

1.10.1 (c) Linking social capital: Linking, in the context of this study, refers to the networks, relationships and interconnections between groups of women involved in IGAs and other government and non-government organisations. It was measured using 7 items with a 5-point Likert scale (1= strongly disagree to 5= strongly agree). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed in (Hamidrez Babaei, 2012).

1.10.2 Women's empowerment (WE)

Conceptual: Women's empowerment is defined as women's access to involvement in income activities, economic power and security in a society (Malhotra, *et al.*, 2002). Women's empowerment has been studied well previously in terms of choice, options, power and control (Mayox, 2000). It consists of (1) power within: a plan for change; (2) power to: the ability to progress necessary skills; (3) power with: articulates women's collective interest; and (4) power over: women's ambitions.

Operational: There is no straight path towards women's empowerment; it may not be globally standardised because of different societal surroundings in different countries (Snijders, T., 2009). In this study, poor women in rural areas, through empowerment, take power and ownership of their lives and, by extension, their choices. In the current study, women's empowerment specifies the psychological and financial assets of the individual, where assets were measured according to the World Bank definitions: (1) psychological empowerment: feeling better, having freedom of choice and feeling a sense of belonging; and (2) economic empowerment: enriched purchasing power and better living conditions (Alsop, *et al.*, 2006).

1.10.2 (a) Psychological assets/empowerment (PA/PE): In the present study, psychological assets are defined as the degree of self-perceived exclusion from community activities, the level of interaction with people from different social groups and the capacity to envisage change to aspire towards (Christens, Peterson & Speer, 2011; Peterson & Zimmerman, 2004; Perkins & Zimmerman, 1995). This is also regarded as psychological empowerment (PE). PE is a multifaceted, motivational concept of self-efficacy that includes meaning, self-determination, competence and impact (Malhotra, *et al.* 2002). It was measured using 10 items with a five-point Likert scale, with the values being measured as follows: strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), undecided (3), agree (4) and strongly agree (5). The scores were further summed to three categories: low (1-2), moderate (2.1-3) and high (3.1-4). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed in (Malik, Chughtai, Iqbal & Ramzan, 2013).

1.10.2 (b) Financial assets/empowerment (FA/FE): In the present research, financial assets are defined as a socio-economic process through which women are motivated to improve their ability to control their own resources, increase self-efficacy, increase income and achieve sustainable development in their standard of living. It is also

regarded as financial empowerment (FE). FE seeks to help women directly reduce poverty and increase their income and standard of living. To measure the financial empowerment of women, the study used 12 items with a five-point Likert scale, which had the following values: strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), undecided (3), agree (4) and strongly agree (5). The scores were further summed to three categories: low (1-2), moderate (2.1-3) and high (3.1-4). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed by others, such as (Kabeer, 1999 & Vida, 2011).

1.10.3 Participation

Conceptual: Participation is an action of stakeholders, influenced by sharing improved ambition, resources and decisions which affect women (World Bank, 1994). Simply put, participation is a series of steps taken in communal life, which may be for social, economic, political, cultural, religious or other reasons (Breurer, 1999). Participation is the impartial and dynamic engagement of women in the establishment of policies (FAO, 2007).

Operational: Operationally, participation of women in IGAs, as noted in the theoretical review, was divided into subjective and objective participation for this paper. It was measured by the respondent's involvement with different IGAs as a group. Participation in the current study was measured by 15 items, utilising a five-point Likert scale going from strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), undecided (3), agree (4) and strongly agree (5). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed by (Vida, 2011 & Lim, 2009).

1.10.3. (a) Subjective participation

Conceptual: Subjective participation is an individual's attitude towards collaboration and cooperation with others. It is affected by the evaluation and expectation of outcomes gained from a collaborative action or following the behaviour of others. Subjective participation involves the mentality and individual sense of responsibility for involvement in social activities (Niazi, 2001).

Operational: To operationalise the attitudes towards participation in IGAs, the researcher used indexes, such as evaluation of participatory activities and expectation of the outcomes of participation. The first dimension of participation in the current study was measured through 6 items utilising a five-point Likert scale, which was graded accordingly: strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), undecided (3), agree (4) and strongly agree (5). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed in (Vida, 2011 & Lim, 2009).

1.10.3. (b) Objective participation

Conceptual: Objective participation refers to the behaviour of people which leads to them taking part in group activities or events, and actively putting themselves into action

(Piran, 2001). In this concept, participation is used as a means of empowerment through practical experience and working together in all stages of income activities, as well as in group programs and activities.

Operational: Objective participation was considered here to demonstrate the capacity of women to take part objectively in all stages of income-generating activities. The second dimension of participation in the current study was measured by 9 items, utilising a five-point Likert scale, measuring strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), undecided (3), agree (4) and strongly agree (5). The study items were developed by the researchers by adopting instruments developed in (Vida, 2011 & Lim, 2009).

1.10.4 Income-generating activities (IGAs)

IGAs consist of income activities undertaken individually or by small-scale businesses, arranged by groups of people to build-up household incomes through diversification. It is also known as those activities which affect the economic facets of people's life by them using economic devices like credit (Akkerman & Baker, 2011). IGAs call attention to women's abilities to be financially independent by making various products and selling them. Women's incomes assist with the nutritional, educational and economic burdens of their families.

1.11 Organisation of the thesis

This thesis is comprised of five (5) main chapters. Chapter one (1) includes the research background, research problems, research questions, objectives, hypotheses, significance, scope, limitations and conceptual and operational definitions of terminology related to the study. Chapter two (2) consists of two main parts; the first part focuses on previous studies related to the concepts explored in the research, and the second part is dedicated to the concepts and theories of the study. These theories explain how the various concepts of the research are interrelated. At the end of chapter two, the conceptual and theoretical frameworks of the study are presented. A description of the study area, population and sampling technique, data collection procedures, measurement procedures and statistical analysis techniques of both quantitative and qualitative methods are explained in chapter three (3). Chapter four (4) focuses on data analyses, the findings, interpretations and discussions to achieve research objectives. Finally, chapter five (5) is composed of the conclusions reached based on key findings according to the study's research objectives, theoretical and practical implications, and recommendations for future research. A bibliography /list of references for the study and appendices compliment the research findings. The appendices are sub-divided into seven sections, namely A, B, C, D, E, F and G.

REFERENCES

- Abbott, J. (1996). *Sharing the City: Community Participation in Urban Management*. Earthscan Publisher, London.
- Ackerly, B. A. (1995). Testing the tools of development: credit programmes, loan involvement, and women's empowerment. *IDS bulletin*, 26(3), 56-68.
- Adams, R. (2017). *Strategies of Empowerment: Taking Account of Protests by People*. In *Countering Discrimination in Social Work*. Routledge, London.
- ADB. (2001). *Women in Bangladesh: Country Briefing Paper*. Programs Department West and Office of Environment and Social Development. Manila, Philippines.
- ADB. (2004). *Bangladesh: Gender, Poverty and the Millennium Development Goals. ADB Country Gender Strategy*. Bangladesh Resident Mission and Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Manila, Philippines.
- ADB. (2007). *Special Evaluation Study: Effect of Microfinance Operations on Poor Rural Households and the Status of Women*. Operations Evaluation Department, Manila, Philippines.
- ADB. (2009). *The Sustainable Livelihood Approach*. Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Manila, Philippines.
- Adler, P.S. & Seok, W.K. (2002). Social Capital: Prospects for a New Concept. *Academy of Management. The Academy of Management Review*, (27): 17-40.
- Afrin, S., Islam, N. & Ahmed, S.U. (2008). A Multivariate Model of Micro Credit and Rural Women Entrepreneurship Development in Bangladesh. *International Journal of Business and Management*, 3(8): 169-185.
- Afshar, H., & Alikhan, F. (1997). *Empowering women for development: experiences from some third world countries*: Booklinks Corporation.
- Agarwal, D. (2000). Capacity building for rural women. *Social Welfare*, 47(4): 7-9.
- Agresti, A. & Finnelly, B. (1997). *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences*. Prentice- Hill, Inc. New Jersey.
- Agricultural Diary. (2007). *Agricultural Information Services*. Department of Agricultural Extension, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh. Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Ahmed, N. (2009). Spatial Poverty Trap and the Impacts through Improved Accessibility: An Empirical Analysis from Southwestern Bangladesh. Available at <http://www.economia.uniparthenope.it/.../Final%20Paper> (searched date: 15 May 2010).

- Ajzen, I. & Fishbein, M. (1970). The Prediction of Behavior from Attitudinal and Normative Variables. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 6(4): 466- 487.
- Aker, J.C. (2007). *Social Networks and Household Welfare in Tanzania: Working Together to Get Out of Poverty*. University of California-Berkeley.
- Akkerman, S.F. & Baker, A. (2011). *An Approachable Analysis of Micro Enterprises in Bangladesh*. Working Paper Series No. 2004-8, The University of Kitakyushu, Japan.
- Akudugu, M.M.A. (2011). Rural Banks' Financial Capital and Livelihoods: Development of Women Farmers in Ghana. *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy*, 5(4):248-264.
- Al-Amin, S. (2007). Socio Economic Status Overrides Age and Gender in Determining Health-Seeking Behavior in Rural Bangladesh. *Bull World Health Organ*, 83: 109-17.
- Al-Amin, S. (2008). *Role of Women in Maintaining Sustainable Livelihoods of Char Landers in Selected Areas of Jamalpur District*, PhD Thesis, Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh.
- Albee, G. (1994). Politics, Power, Prevention and Social Change. In *Prevention through Political Action and Social Change*. ed. J.M. Joffe, and G.W. Albee, Hanover and London: University Press of New England.
- Alfred, M. V. (2009). Social capital theory: Implications for women's networking and learning. *New Directions for Adult and Continuing Education*, 2009 (122), 3- 12.
- Ali, T., Ahmad, M., Shahbaz, B. & Suleri, A. (2007). Impact of participatory forest management on financial assets of rural communities in Northwest Pakistan. *Ecological Economics*, 63(2-3): 588-593.
- Alice, S.N. (1998). *Community Participation in the implementation process: Barbador-A case study in the management of coastal areas*. York University, North York Press.
- Alkire, S. (2008). *Concepts and Measures of Agency*, OPHI Working Paper 9, University of Oxford.
- Almaki, S. H., Silong, A.D., Idris, K., & Wahat, N.W. A. (2016). Challenges Faced Muslim Women Leaders in Higher Education. *Journal of Educational and Social Research*, 6(3), 75-86.
- Alsop, R., Bertelsen, M.F. & Holland, J. (2006). *Empowerment in Practice: From Analysis to Implementation*, World Bank Publications.

- Alvi, M. H. (2014). A Manual for Basic Techniques of Data Analysis and Distribution. Retrieved from Munich Personal RePEc Archive: <https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/60138/>.
- Amegnaglo, C. J. (2018). Determinants of maize farmers' performance in Benin, West Africa. *Kasetsart Journal of Social Sciences*, XXX: 1-7.
- Amin, R., Becker, S., & Bayes, A. (1998). NGO-promoted microcredit programs and women's empowerment in rural Bangladesh: quantitative and qualitative evidence. *The journal of developing areas*, 32(2), 221-23.
- Anand, J.S. (2002). *Self-help groups in empowering women: Case study of selected SHGs and NHGs*. Discussion Paper No. 38, Kerala Research Programme on Local Level Development, Centre for Development Studies, Prasanth Nagar, Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram.
- Anthes, W.L. & Most, B.W. (2000). Money Frozen in the Headlights: The Dynamics of Women and Money. *Journal of Financial Planning*, 9: 2-9.
- Arat, Z. (2015). Feminisms, women's rights, and the UN: Would achieving gender equality empower women? *American Political Science Review*, 109(4), 674- 689., doi:10.1017/S0003055415000386.
- Arun, S., Annim, S. and Arun, T.G. (2010). *How can asset accumulation strategies be meaningful for adivasis in Southern India*. Brooks World Poverty Institute (BWPI), Working Paper No. 32. Manchester, UK: The University of Manchester.
- Ary, D., Jacobs, L.C., Razavieh, A. & Sorensen, C. (2013). Introduction to research in education: Wadsworth Pub Co. *Asian Development Bank Review*, 34(2): 26- 27.
- Asana, L. N. (2018). *Inclusion of the African diaspora in Florida nonprofit organizations* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (2024612054).
- Ashraf, H., & Prentice, R. (2019). Beyond factory safety: Labor unions, militant protest, and the accelerated ambitions of Bangladesh's export garment industry. *Dialectical Anthropology*, 43(1), 93–107.
- Babbie, E.R. (2008). *The basics of social research*. Belmont, Thomson/Wadsworth Publishing Co.
- Bailey, J. (2008). First steps in qualitative data analysis: transcribing. *Family Bangladesh* (Global Labour University Working Paper No. 38). Geneva: Bangladesh: Trends and determinants. *Journal of Biosocial Science*, 47(1).
- Barbalet, J.M. (2001). *Emotion, Social Theory, and Social Structure: A Macro Sociological Approach*, Cambridge University Press.
- Baron, S., Field. J. and Schuller, T. (2000). *Social Capital: Critical Perspectives*, Oxford, Oxford University Press.

- Basnet, S.R., Adhikari, K., Prasad, C.A. (2001). Do income generating Program for empower women. *India journal of rural development*, 11(5): 506-64.
- Bateman, M., Birchall, J., Boyd, G., McDonald, J., Shaw, L., Smith, S., Wilson, M. & Albee. (2005). Making a difference: Cooperative solution to global poverty. Retrieved from: <http://www.andrewbibby.com/pdf/making%20a%20difference.pdf>.
- Baumann, P. & Sinha, S. (2001). Linking development with democratic processes in India: Political capital and sustainable livelihoods analysis. *Natural Resource Perspectives*, 68, London: ODI.
- BBS. (2008). *Statistical Yearbook of Bangladesh*, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Planning Division, Ministry of Planning, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Dhaka.
- BBS. (2017). *Statistical Yearbook of Bangladesh*, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Dhaka.
- Bebbington, A., Woolcock, M., Guggenheim, S. & Olson, E. (2006). *The Search for Empowerment. Social capital as Idea and practice at the World Bank*, West Hartford, CT (USA) Kumarian Press.
- Becker, E. (2012). Themes from Feed the Future Women's Empowerment in An Agriculture Index: Report from Qualitative Case Studies in Bangladesh, Guatemala and Uganda. *Unpublished report submitted to the International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC*.
- Bendrick, M.J. & Egan, M.L. (1995). Worker ownership and participation enhances economic development in low-opportunity communities. *Journal of community Practice*, 2 (1): 61-85.
- Bennett, T. (2002). The Meaning of Women's Empowerment: New Concept from Action quoted. In *Strategies and Approaches for Empowering women in Bangladesh*, ed. M.A. Kashem, In *Empowering rural women-less, Opportunities and Approaches*, ed. R.K. Samanta, Delhi: The Women Press.
- Bernard, H. R., & Bernard, H. R. (2012). *Social research methods: Qualitative and Quantitative approaches*. Sage.
- Bernard, H. R., Wutich, A., & Ryan, G. W. (2016). *Analyzing Qualitative Data: Systematic Approaches*. SAGE Publications.
- Berry, S. (1993). *No Condition is Permanent: The Social Dynamics of Agrarian Change in Sub-Saharan Africa*, Madison, Wisconsin. University of Wisconsin Press.
- Berzina, K. (2011). Enterprise Related Social Capital: Different Levels of Social Capital Accumulation. *Economics and Sociology*, 4(2): 63-83.
- Birks, M., Chapman, Y., & Francis, K. (2008). Memoing in qualitative research: Probing data and processes. *Journal of Research in Nursing*, 13(1), 68-75.

- Bittman, M. & Fisher, K. (2003). *Exploring Patterns of Volunteering and participation*. Social Policy Research Centre, Sydney.
- Black, W.C. & DuTeau, N.M. (1997). RAPD-PCR and SSCP analysis for insect population genetic studies. In *Molecular Biology of Insect Disease Vectors: A Methods Manual*, ed. J.M. Crampton, C.B. Beard, C. Louis, pp. 362-363. Chapman & Hall, England.
- Blakely, T. & Ivory, V. (2006). Commentary: Bonding, bridging, and linking-but still not much going on. *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 35: 614-615.
- Blanco-Mesa, F.; Merigó, J.M. (2017). Gil-Lafuente, A.M. Fuzzy decision making: A bibliometric-based review. *J. Intell. Fuzzy Syst.*, 32, 2033–2050.
- Bogdan, R.C. & Biklen, S.K. (2006). *Qualitative Research for Education: An Introduction to Theory and Methods* (5th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.
- Bohem, A., & Staples, L.H. (2004). Empowerment: The point of view of consumer. *Families in Society*, 85 (2): 1270-1280.
- Bourdieu, P. (1986). The Forms of Capital. In *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education*, ed. J.G. Richardson, pp. 241-258. Greenwood Press, New York.
- Bourdieu, P. & Wacquant, L.J.D. (1992). *An invitation to reflexive sociology*, University of Chicago Press.
- Bowen, G.A. (2008). Naturalistic inquiry and the saturation concept: a research note. *Qualitative research*, 8(1): 137-152.
- Bradbury-Jones C., Sambrook, S. & Irvine, F. (2008). Power and empowerment in nursing: a fourth theoretical approach. *The Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 62: 258-266.
- Braun, V. & Clarke, V. (2006) ‘Using thematic analysis in psychology’. *Research in Psychology*, 3(2), 77–101.
- Brennan, M.A. & Luloff, A.E. (2005). A cooperative approach to rural development in Ireland: Cultural artifacts and the Irish Diaspora as an example. *Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education*, 12: 5–26.
- Breurer, D. (1999). *Community participation in local health and sustainable development: Approaches and Techniques*. European sustainable development and health series 4. World Health Organization. Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen.
- Bryman, A. (2012). *Social Research Methods*. Oxford: Oxford University Press Bulletin. *Psychological Science*, 1(3): 98-101.

- Burnard, P. (1996). Teaching the analysis of textual data: An experiential approach. *Nurse Education Today*, 16(4), 278-281.
- Burt, R.S. (2000). The network structure of social capital. *Research in organizational behavior*, 22: 345-423.
- Buss, T. F. (2015). Foreign aid and the failure of state building in Haiti from 1957 to 2015. *Latin American Policy*, 6(2), 319–339. doi:10.1111/lamp.12080.
- Butler, G. & Council, W.S. (2005). Sustainable communities: the important role of local government in building social capital. Retrieved from <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/csrc/2ndconference/refereed>.
- Byceson, D.F. (1996). De-agrarianizing and Rural Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Sectoral Perspective, *World Development*, 24(1): 97-111.
- Cancino, C.; Merigó, J.M.; Coronado, F.; Dessouky, Y.; Dessouky, M. (2017). Forty years of Computers & Industrial Engineering: A bibliometric analysis. *Comp. Ind. Eng.* 113, 614–629.
- Carment, D., & Calleja, R. (2018). Diasporas and fragile states – Beyond remittances assessing the theoretical and policy linkages. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 44(8), 1270-1288. doi:10.1080/1369183X.2017.1354157.
- Carr, E. S. (2012). Rethinking empowerment theory using a feminist lens: The importance of process. *Affilia*, 18(8), 8-20. doi:10.1177/0886109902239092.
- Casley, D.J. & Kumar, K. (1998). *The Collection, Analysis and Use of Monitoring and Evaluation Data*. Washington DC: World Bank, Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Charles Dwumfour Osei & Jincui Zhuang. (2020). Rural Poverty Alleviation Strategies and Social Capital Link: The Mediation Role of Women Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation. *SAGE Open*, April-June 2020: 1–11, journals.sagepub.com/home/sgo, DOI: 10.1177/2158244020925504.
- Charmaz, K. (2006). *Constructing grounded theory: A practical guide through qualitative analysis*. Sage.
- Chavis, D.M. & Wandersman, A. (1990). Sense of community in the urban environment: A catalyst for participation and community development. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 18(1): 55-81.
- Cheston, S., & Kuhn, L. (2002). *Empowering Women Through Microfinance: Women's Opportunity Fund*: UNIFEM.
- Cheung, Y.W., Mok, B.H. & Cheung, T.S. (2005). Personal empowerment and life satisfaction among self-help group members in Hong Kong. *Small group research*, 36(3): 354-377.

- Chipunza, C., & Gwarinda, S. A. (2010). Transformational leadership in merging education institutions: A case study. *SA Journal of Human Resource Management*, 8(1), 1-10.
- Chloupkova, J., Svendsen, G.L, H. & Svendsen, G.T. (2003). Building and destroying social: The case study of cooperative movements in Denmark and Poland. *Agriculture and Human Values*, 20: 241–252.
- Chowdhury, M.J.A. (2007). *Does the Participation in the Microcredit Programs Increase Consumption of Participating Households? The Case of the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh*. Center for Microfinance and Development (CDM). Working Paper 03, pp 1-16, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Christiaan, G. & Bastelaer, T. (2002). *The Role of Social Capital in Development: An Empirical Assessment*, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Christiaan, G. & Bastelaer, T. (2006). *Understanding and Measuring Social Capital: A Synthesis of Findings and Recommendations from the Social Capital Initiative*. World Bank, Washington, DC.
- Christiaan, G., Deepa, N., Jones, V.N. & Micheal, W. (2004). *Measuring Social Capital: an integrated questionnaire*. Washington D.C: World Bank.
- Christiaan, G., Narayan, D., Jones, V.N. & Woolcock, M. (2003). *Measuring Social Capital: An Integrated Questionnaire*. World Bank Working Paper No.18, The World Bank, Washington, DC.
- Christiens, K., Peterson, & Speer. (2011). *Social Capital and the Happiness of Nations: The Importance of Trust and Networks for Life Satisfaction in a Cross-National Perspective*. Peter Lang Publishing.
- Christoforou, A. (2010). Social capital and human development: an empirical investigation across European countries. *Journal of Institutional Economics*, 6(02): 191-214.
- Chuan, C. & Penyelidikan, J. (2006). Sample size estimation using Krejcie and Morgan and Cohen statistical power analysis: A comparison. *Journal penyelidikan, IPBL* 7: 78-86.
- Clark, L., Birkhead, A. S., Fernandez, C., & Egger, M. J. (2017). A transcription and translation protocol for sensitive cross-cultural team research. *Qualitative Health Research*, 27(12), 1751-1764.
- Coelho, V.S. & Favareto, A. (2008). Questioning the relationship between participation and development. *World Development Journal*, 36(12): 214- 223.
- Coffé, H. (2009). Social capital and community heterogeneity. *Social Indicators Research*, 91(2), 155-170.

- Cohen, J.M. & Uphoff, N. (1977). *Rural Development Participation: Concepts and Measures for Project Design, Implementation and Evaluation*. Ithaka, Cornell University.
- Cohen, L., Manion, L., & Morrison, K. (2007). *Research Methods in Education, 6th Edition*. Oxon: Routledge.
- Cohen, M. Z., Kahn, D. L., & Steeves, D. L. (2011). *Hermeneutic phenomenological research: A practical guide for nurse researchers*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Coleman, J. (1990). *Foundations of Social Theory*. Cambridge, MS: Harvard University Press.
- Collier, P. (1998). *Social capital and poverty*. Social Capital Initiative Working Paper No.4. Social Development Department, World Bank, Washington, DC.
- Conger, J.A. & Kanungo, R.N. (1988). The empowerment process: Integrating theory and practice. *The Academy of Management Review*, 13(3): 471-482. *Contrôle-Audit*, 21, 15–92.
- Corbin, J., Strauss, A., & Strauss, A. L. (2014). *Basics of qualitative research*. Sage Côté, S. & Healy, T. (2001). *The well-being of nations: The role of human and social capital. Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development*, Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI), Paris, France.
- Cox, E. (1997). Building social capital. *Health Promotion Matters*, 4: 1-4. Crabtree, B. F., & Miller, W. L. (Eds.). (1999). *Doing qualitative research*. Sage Craig, J.J. (2002). *The Nature of Cooperation*, Montreal: Black Rose Books.
- Cramb, R. (2006). The role of social capital in the promotion of conservation farming: the case of 'landcare' in the Southern Philippines. *Land Degradation & Development*, 17(1): 23-30.
- Cresswell, J. W. (2003). *Research Designs: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Method Approaches*. London: SAGE Publications, Incorporated.
- Cresswell, J. W. (2009). *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches*. (Sage: Thousand Oaks, CA.).
- Cresswell, J. W., Klassen, A. C., Plano Clark, V. L., & Smith, K. C. (2013). Best practices for mixed methods research in the health sciences. *Bethesda (Maryland): National Institutes of Health*, 2094-2103.
- Cresswell, J.W. & Clark, V.L.P. (2007). *Designing and conducting mixed method research*, Sage Publication Inc.
- Crotty, J. (2009). Structural causes of the global financial crisis: a critical assessment of the 'new financial architecture'. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 33(4): 563-580.

- Crouch, M., & McKenzie, H. (2006). The logic of small samples in interview based qualitative research. *Social Science Information*, 45(4), 483-499.
- Dag, W. & Per, S. (2003). Participation and Social Capital Formation: Norway in a Comparative Perspective. *Scandinavian Political Studies*, 26(1):67-91.
- Danjiger, A. & Offer (2005): *Evaluating the success of rural productive cooperatives in Mazandaran Province*. Unpublished Manuscript, College of Agriculture, Tarbiat Modares University.
- Dasgupta, P. & Serageldin, I. (2000). Social capital. World Bank, Washington, DC. Data analysis: an example from practice. *Nurse Researcher*, 22(5), 8–12.
- Dee, J.R., Henkin, A.B. & Duemer, L. (2003). Structural antecedents and psychological correlates of teacher empowerment. *Journal of Educational Administration*, 41(3): 257-277.
- Delhey, J., Newton, K., & für Sozialforschung, W. B. (2002). *Who Trusts?: The Origins of Social Trust in Seven Nations*: WZB, Abt. Sozialstruktur und Sozialberichterstattung.
- Denzin, N.K. (1978). *The Research Act: A Theoretical Introduction to Sociological Methods*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Desilva, J., Estrin, S. & Jones, D. C. (2007). The effects of Workers Participation on enterprise Performance, Empirical Evidence from French Cooperative. *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 3 (2): 197-217.
- DFID. (2000). *Poverty Elimination and Empowerment of Women: Strategies for achieving the international development targets*, Department for International Development, DFID.
- DFID. (2010). *Working with cooperatives for poverty reduction*. Department for International Development, DFID.
- Dhesi, A.S. (2000). Social capital and community development. *Community Development Journal*, 35(3): 199-214.
- Dighe, A. (1998). Women and literacy. *Women in the Third World: An Encyclopedia of Contemporary Issues*, New York and London: Garland Publishing, Inc, 418- 426.
- Dolnicar, S., Grün, B., & Leisch, F. (2016). Increasing sample size compensates for data problems in segmentation studies. *Journal of Business Research*, 69(2): 992-999.
- Donaghey, J., & Reinecke, J. (2018). When industrial democracy meets corporate social responsibility—A comparison of the Bangladesh accord and alliance responses to the Rana Plaza Disaster. *British Journal of Industrial Relations*, 56(1), 14–42.
- Dooley, D. (2001). *Social Research Methods*. 4th Edition, University of California, Irvine.

- Dourin, J.M., Valovich-mcleod, T.C., Shultz, S.J., Gansneder, B.M. & Perrin, D.H. (2004). Reliability and Validity of the Biodex system 3 pro isokinetic dynamometer velocity, torque and position measurements. *European Journal of applied physiology*, 91(1): 22-29.
- Dufur, P. & Uslander, E. M. (2013). Introduction. In E.M. Uslander (Ed.), *Participation and social capital in everyday life* (1-8). London: Routledge.
- Dumas, C. (2001). Micro Enterprise Training for Low-Income Women: the Case of the Community Entrepreneurs Programme. *Journal of Entrepreneurship*, 56(1), 14–42.
- Easterly, W., Ritzen, J., & Woolcock, M. (2006). Social cohesion, institutions, and growth. *Economics & Politics*, 18(2), 103-120
- Edelman, B. & Mitra, A. (2006). Slum Dwellers' Access to Basic Amenities: The Role of Political Contact, Its Determinants and Adverse Effects. *Review of Urban & Regional Development Studies*, 18(1): 25-40.
- Edwards, B. & Foley, M. (1998). Civil society and social capital beyond Putnam. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 42(1): 124-139.
- Eklinder, f. & Swanepoel, H. (2012). *Community Development and beyond: Issues structures and Procedures*. Pretoria: Van Schaik.
- Ellis, F. (2000). *Rural Livelihoods and Diversity in Developing Countries*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, UK.
- Elo, A., Bold, J., Fulton, M., Hammond, L. & Ish, D. (2014). *Cooperatives and Community Development: Economics in Social Perspective*. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada: Centre for the Study of Cooperatives, University of Saskatchewan.
- Endeley, J.B. (2010). Conceptualizing Women's Empowerment in Societies in Cameroon: How Does Money Fit In? *Journal Gender & Development*, 9(1): 34-41.
- Erkens, M.; Paugam, L. & Stolowy, H. (2015). Non-financial information: State of the art and research perspectives based on a bibliometric study. *Comptabilité-Contrôle-Audit*, 21, 15–92.
- Esman, M. (2003). *Social capital and empowerment*, Cornell University. Available from siteresources.worldbank.org.
- Esquivel, V., & Sweetman, C. (2016). Gender and the Sustainable Development Goals. *Gender & Development*, 24(1), 1–8.
- Fakir, S.K. (2008). *Women Empowerment through Participation in Income Generating Activities of Sabalambay Unnayan Samity*. PhD Thesis. Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh.

- FAO. (2007). *Socio-economic Impacts of Transboundary Animal Diseases in the Near East with Particular Emphasis on Avian Influenza*. Twenty-Ninth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East. Cairo, Egypt. 1-5 March.
- Farouqua, P. & Takey, A. (2008). An introduction to citizen participation, voluntary organizations, and community development: insights for empowerment through research. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 18(1), 41-54.
- Faul, F., Erdfelder, E., Buchner, A. & Lang, A.G. (2009). Statistical Power Analysis using G* power 3.1: Test for Correlation and Regression analyses. *Behavior Research Methods*, 41(4): 1149-1160.
- Fehr, B., Baldwin, M., Collins, L., Patterson, S., & Benditt, R. (1999). Anger in close relationships: An interpersonal script analysis. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 25(3), 299.
- Felix, G. (2017). *Rural Haitian women's experiences with poor health through poverty* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (1946662654).
- Ferlander, S., & Makinen, I. H. (2009). Social capital, gender and self-rated health. Evidence from the Moscow Health Survey 2004. *Social Science & Medicine*, 69(9), 1323-1332.
- Fetterson, M.D. (2002). Empowerment evaluation: Building communities of practice and culture of learning. *American journal of Psychology*, 30 (1): 89-102.
- Field, J. (2003). *Social capital: Key ideas*. 2nd Edition, Routledge.
- Fine, B. (2001). *Social capital versus social theory: political economy and social science at the turn of the millennium*, Psychology Press.
- Firdause, N.E. (2003). *Awareness of Rural Women on Agricultural Extension Services*. M.S. (Ag. Ext. Ed). Thesis, Dept. Of Agricultural Extension Education, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh, Bangladesh.
- Fraenkel, J. R., Wallen, N. E., & Hyun, H. H. (2016). *How to design and evaluate research in education*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Freire, P. (1973). *Education for Critical Consciousness*. New York: Continuum publishing Company.
- Friedmann, J. (1992). *Empowerment: The Politics of Alternative Development*, Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
- Friedmann, J. (1996). Rethinking poverty: empowerment and citizen's rights. *International Social Science Journal*, 148: 161-172.
- Fukuyama, F. (2001). Social capital, civil society and development. *Third world quarterly*, 22(1): 7-20.

- Fukuyama, F. (2002). Social capital and development: The coming agenda. *SAIS Review*, 22: 23-37.
- Fusch, P. I., & Ness, L. R. (2015). Are we there yet? Data saturation in qualitative research. *The Qualitative Report*, 20(9), 1408-1416. Retrieved from <http://www.nova.edu/ssss/QR/QR20/9/fusch1.pdf>
- Gabriel, J., & Heather, P. (2012). "Participatory approaches to rural development and rural poverty alleviation", for the workshop on 'Emerging issues in rural poverty reduction: the role of participatory approaches held in Bangkok. *United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP, 2009)*.
- Gajdová, D., & Majduchova, H. (2018). Financial sustainability criteria and their testing in the conditions of the Slovak non-profit sector. *Contemporary Economics*, 12(1), 33-56. Retrieved from we.vizja.pl/
- Gallo, M.; Pezdevšek Malovrh, S.; Laktič, T.; De Meoa, I.; Paletto, A. (2018). Collaboration and conflicts between stakeholders in drafting the Natura 2000 Management Programme (2015–2020) in Slovenia. *J. Nat. Conserv.*, 42, 36–44.
- Gandhiadi, G., Akhter, J.; Kun, C.; & Chukwunonso, O. (2018). Rural Women's Empowerment is Generated through Microcredit Schemes: Opportunities in Bangladesh. *Sch. J. Appl. Sci. Res.*, 1, 58–64.
- Garcia-Juan, B., Escrig-Tena, A.B., & Roca-Puig, V. (2018). The Role of Goal Orientation on the Structural-Psychological Empowerment Link in the Public Sector. *International Journal of Psychological Behavioral Sciences*, 5(6).
- Genç, R. (2017). The importance of communication in sustainability & sustainable strategies. *Procedia Manufacturing*, 8, 511-516.
- George, D. & Mallery, P. (2003). *SPSS for Windows Step by Step: A Simple Guide and Reference (10.0 Update)*, United States of America, Pearson Education.
- Gergis, A. (1999). *Citizen economic empowerment in Botswana: concepts & principles*, Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis, Gaborone: BIDPA.
- Gewirtz, S., Dickson, M., Power, S., Halpin, D. and Whitty, G. (2006). The deployment of social capital theory in educational policy and provision: the case of Education Action Zones in England. *British Educational Research Journal*, 31(6): 651-673.
- Ghaffari, A. (2011). Assessing relationship between rural women empowerment and employment. *Journal of American Science*, 7(6).
- Ghauri, P. N., & Grønhaug, K. (2005). *Research methods in business studies: A practical guide*. Pearson Education.
- Gibbs, L., Kealy, M., Willis, K., Green, J., Welch, N., & Daly, J. (2007). What have sampling and data collection got to do with good qualitative research? *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, 31(6), 540-544.

- Giddens, A. (1994). Living in a post traditional society. In *Reflexive modernization: politics, tradition and aesthetics in the modern social order*. ed. U. Beck, A. Giddens, and S. Lash, pp. 56-109. Cambridge, England: Polity.
- Gidengil, E., Goodyear-Grant, E., Nevitte, N., Blais, A. & Nadeau, R. (2006). Gender, knowledge and social capital. In *Gender and Social Capital*, eds. B. O'Neil, and E. Gidengil, pp. 241-272. Routledge: New York, NY, USA.
- Gittell, R. & Vidal, A. (1998). *Community organizing: Building social capital as a development strategy*. Sage Publications, Inc.
- Glaeser, E., Laibson, D & Sacerdote, B. (2002). An Economic Approach to Social Capital. *The Economic Journal*, 112: F437-F458.
- Gobezie, G. (2010). Empowerment of Women in Rural Ethiopia: A Review of Two Microfinance Models. *The Fletcher Journal of Human Security*, 25 (4).
- Graneheim, U. H., & Lundman, B. (2004). Qualitative content analysis in nursing research: concepts, procedures and measures to achieve trustworthiness. *Nurse education today*, 24(2), 105-112.
- Granovetter, M.S. (1973). The Strength of Weak Ties. *American Journal of Sociology*, 78(6): 1360-1380.
- Granovetter, M.S. (1995). *Getting a job: A study of contacts and careers*. University of Chicago Press.
- Grant, E. (2001). Social Capital and Community Strategies: Neighbourhood Development in Guatemala City. *Development and Change*, 32: 975-997.
- Green, J., & Thorogood, N. (2009). *Qualitative methods for health research*, (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Groenewald, T. (2008). Memos and memoing. *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods*, 2, 505-506.
- Grootaert, C. (2001). On the Relationship between Empowerment, Social Capital and Community-Driven Development, World Bank Group, Washington DC.
- Grootaert, C. & Bastelaer, T.V. (2006). *Understanding and Measuring Social Capital: A Multidisciplinary Tool for Practitioners*. World Bank Group, Washington, DC.
- Grossoehme, D. H. (2014). Overview of qualitative research. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, 20(3), 109-122.
- Grown, C., Gupta, G. & Kes, A. (2005). *Acting: Achieving gender equality and empowering women*, UN Millennium Project, Task Force on Education and Gender Equality, Earthscan: UK.

- Guba, E. G., & Lincoln, Y. S. (1981). *Effective evaluation: Improving the usefulness of evaluation results through responsive and naturalistic approaches*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Guest, G., Bunce, A., & Johnson, L. (2006). How many interviews are enough? An experiment with data saturation and variability. *Field Methods*, 18(1), 59-82.
- Guest, G., MacQueen, K. M., & Namey, E. E. (2012). *Applied thematic analysis*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE.
- Gupta, K. & Yesudian, P. (2006). Evidence of women's empowerment in India: a study of socio-spatial disparities, *Geo Journal*, 65(4): 365-380.
- Haely & Hampswie (2002). *Promoting community change: Making it happen in the real world, (5th ed.)*, Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.
- Hagens, V., Dobrow, M. J., & Chafe, R. (2009). Interviewee transcript review: Assessing the impact on qualitative research. *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, 9(1), 47.
- Haines, A. & Green, G.P. (2011). *Asset Building & Community Development*, Sage Publications, Inc.
- Hair, J.F., Black, W.C., Babin, B.J., Anderson, R.E. & Tatham, R.L. (2006). *Multivariate data analysis*. Vol. 6, Pearson Prentice Hall, Upper SaddleRiver.
- Hakelius, K. (1996). *Cooperative Values-Farmers Cooperatives in the Minds of the farmers*, Dissertation-23, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala.
- Halpern, D. (2005). *Social Capital*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Hamidreza, B. (2012). *Social Capital and Empowerment among Squatter Settlers in Tehran, Iran*. PhD thesis. Faculty of Human Ecology, University Putra Malaysia, Malaysia.
- Hammarberg, K. , & M. Kirkman, S. de Lacey (2016). Qualitative research methods: when to use them and how to judge them. *Human Reproduction*, Volume 31, Issue 3. Pages 498–501, <https://doi.org/10.1093/humrep/dev334>
- Handy, F., & Kassam, M. (2007). Practice What You Preach? The Role of Rural NGOs in women is Empowerment, *Journal of Community Practice*, 14(3): 69-91.
- Hardy, J. Y. (2017). *Strategies to secure sustainability for nonprofit organizations* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (1985673068).
- Harknett, K. (2006). The relationship between private safety nets and economic outcomes among single mothers, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68(1): 172-191.

- Harley, D., Grome, S., Kim, S.H., McLendon, T., & Hunn, V. (2018). Perceptions of Success and Self-Sustainability Among Women Participating in an Entrepreneurial Skills Development and Empowerment Program Through Photovoice. *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, 5: 1-19.
- Harre, R.E. (1999). *Trust and its surrogates: psychological foundations of political Process, Democracy and Trust*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Harriss, J. (2001). *Depoliticizing Development: The World Bank and Social Capital*, Anthem South Asian studies. Anthem Press, London.
- Hart, R.A. (2013). *Children's Participation: The theory and practice of involving young citizens in community development and environmental care* (1st edition) Routledge, London.
- Harun, Z. B. (2016). *Knowledge, attitude and communication in relation to the goods and services tax compliance among wood product manufacturers in Peninsular Malaysia*. (Doctoral dissertation). Univesriti Putra Malaysia, Malaysia.
- Hasan, S.S., Hossain, M., Sultana, S. & Ghosh, M.K. (2015). Women's involvement in income generating activities and their opinion about its contribution: A study of gazipur district, Bangladesh. *Science Innovation*, 3(6): 72-80.
- Hassan, M., & Nazneen, S. (2017). Violence and the breakdown of the political settlement: An uncertain future for Bangladesh? *Conflict, Security & Development*, 17(3), 205–223.
- Heath, R., & Mobarak, A. M. (2015). Manufacturing growth and the lives of Bangladeshi women. *Journal of Development Economics*, 115, 1–15.
- Hedayat, A.N. (2010). *Women empowerment through non-governmental organization in Shiraz, Iran*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, University Putra Malaysia, Malaysia.
- Henly, J., Danziger, S. & Offer, S. (2005). The contribution of social support to the material wellbeing of low-income families. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 67(1): 122-140.
- Herreros, F. (2004). *The problem of forming social capital: why trust?* New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Hickey, S., Sen, K., & Bukenya, B. (2015). Exploring the politics of inclusive development: Towards a new conceptual approach. In S. Hickey, K. Sen, & B. Bukenya (Eds.), *The politics of inclusive development: Interrogating the evidence* (pp. 3–34). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hoque, M. & Itohara, Y. (2008). Participation and Decision-Making Role of Rural Women in Economic Activities: A Comparative Study for Members and Non-Members of the Micro-Credit Organizations in Bangladesh, *Journal of Social Sciences*, 4(3): 229-236.

- Hoque, M. & Itohara, Y. (2009). Women empowerment through participation in micro-credit program: a case study from Bangladesh, *Journal of Social Sciences* 5 (3): 244-250.
- Hora, E. A. (2014). Factors that affect women participation in leadership and Decision making position. *Asian Journal of Humanity, Art and Literature*, 1(2), 97-118.
- Hossain, N. (2017). *The aid lab: Understanding Bangladesh's unexpected success*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. CrossRefGoogle Scholar
- Hossain, N. (2018). Post-conflict ruptures and the space for women's empowerment in Bangladesh. *Women's Studies International Forum*, 68, 104–112.
- Hossain, M. A. (2018). Socio-Economic Obstacles of Women Empowerment in Rural Bangladesh: A Study on Puthia Upazila of Rajshahi District. *Research on Humanities and Social Sciences*, 1-12.
- Houghton, C., Murphy, K., Shaw, D., & Casey, D. (2015). Qualitative case study Data analysis: an example from practice. *Nurse Researcher*, 22(5), 8–12.
- Hoyt, A. (2004). Consumer Ownership in Capitalist Economies: Approaches of theory to consumer cooperation. In *Cooperatives and local development: theory and applications for the 21st Century*, ed. C.D. Merret, and N. Walzer, pp. 265–286. New York, NY: M.E. Sharpe.
- Huo, A.Y. (2017). Bibliometric Study of Specific Human Capital-Based on the CNKI Series Data Analysis from 2000 to 2014. *ACSR-Adv. Comput. Sci. Res*, 75, 70–79.
- Iisakka, L. & Alanen, A. (2006). Social capital in Finland: Internal and international background. In *Social capital in Finland, Statistical review*, ed. L. Iisakka, (To be published in English: Statistics Finland, living conditions), Helsinki, Finland.
- Inglehart, R. & Welzel, C. (2005). *Modernization, Cultural Change and Democracy: The Human Development Sequence*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. *International Labour Organization*
- Inwent & IFAD. (2006). *Strengthening Local Governemce for Empowerment of the Poor*. Policy Dialogue Workshop Documentation, 28-30 March 2006, Arusha, Tanzania.
- Iravani, M.R. & Dindar, E. (2011). The survey of factors affecting social trust among students: A case study of Jahrom universities' students. *African Journal of Business Management*, 5(3): 1051-1059.
- Isabelle, G. & Jane, P. (2004). *Microfinance challenges: empowerment or disempowerment of the poor*, French Institute of Pondicherry, India.

- Isidore Ekpe, Norsiah Mat, Abdullah Al Mamun & Nik Malini Binti Nik Mahdi. (2015). Enhancing the Socio-Economic Wellbeing of Malaysian Local Women through Social Capital and Micro-Enterprise Performance. *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Business*. Vol. 3, Issue 2, pp. 13 - 25.
- Islam, M.A., & Jantan, A.H. (2017). The glass ceiling; Career barriers for female employees in the ready-made garments (RMG) industry of Bangladesh. *Academy of Strategic Management Journal*, 16: 1-11.
- Islam, M.K. & Gerdtham, U.G. (2006). *A Strategy for Small Holder Poultry Production in Bangladesh*. Proceedings of 3rd International Poultry Show and Seminar, Organized by World's Poultry Science Association-Bangladesh Branch.
- Islam, M.K., Merlo, J., Kawachi, I., Lindstrom, M. & Gerdtham U.G. (2005). Social capital and health: Do egalitarianism matter? A literature reviews. *International Journal for Equity in Health*, 5(3): 1–28.
- Islam, M.Z.A. (2009). *Survival Strategies of the Female Displaces in Rural Bangladesh: A Study of Two Riparian Villages on the Right Bank of Jamuna*. XII World Congress of Rural Sociology, Goyang, Korea.
- Jabeen, S. R., & Ahmad, K. (2020). Women Microfinance Users and Their Association with Improvement in Quality of Life: *Evidence from Pakistan*. *Asian Women*, 29(4), pp.73- 105.
- Jejeebhoy, S.J. & Sathar, Z.A. (2001). Women's Autonomy in India and Pakistan: The Influence of Religion and Region. *Population & Development Review*, 27: 687-712.
- Jennings, L.B., Parra-Medina, D.M., Messias, D.A.K.H. & McLoughlin, K. (2006). Toward a critical social theory of youth empowerment. *Journal of Community Practice*, 14 (1&2): 31-55.
- John Curtis, W., & Singh, N. N. (1996). Family involvement and empowerment in mental health service provision for children with emotional and behavioral disorders. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 5(4), 503-517.
- John. A.O. (2010). *Quantitative research methods*. A paper presented at research methodology capacity building workshop for lecturers of tertiary institutions in Nigeria.
- Johnston, D. & Morduch, J. (2008). The unbanked: evidence from Indonesia. *The World Bank Economic Review*, 22(3): 517-537.
- Joseph, J. (2009). Research population. *Journal of Educational Research*, 50(1): 1-5.
- Jyothi, K.S. (1998). *Employment pattern and empowerment of rural women-A study in Kolar district*. M. Sc. (Agri.) Thesis, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore.

- Kabeer, N. (1999). Resources, Agency, Achievements: Reflections on the Measurement of Women's Empowerment. *Development and Change*, 30: 435- 464.
- Kabeer, N., Mahmud, S., & Tasneem, S. (2018). The contested relationship between paid work and women's empowerment: Empirical analysis from Bangladesh. *The European Journal of Development Research*, 30(2), 235–251.
- Kabir, M. S., Salam, M. U., Chowdhury, A., Rahman, N. M. F., Iftekharuddaula, K. M., Rahman, M. Rashid, M., Dipti, S., Islam, A., Latif, M., Islam, A.S., Hossain, M., Nessa, B., Ansari, T., Ali, M., & Biswas, J. K. (2015). Rice vision for Bangladesh: 2050 and beyond. *Bangladesh Rice Journal*, 19(2): 1-18.
- Kalantari, K. (2003). *Data Processing and Analysis in Socio-Economic Research*. Sharif Publication, Tehran.
- Kamal, S. M. M., Hassan, C. H., Alam, G. M., & Ying, Y. (2015). Child marriage in Bangladesh: Trends and determinants. *Journal of Biosocial Science*, 47(1), 120–139.
- Kate Maclean (2010). Capitalizing on Women's Social Capital? Women-Targeted Microfinance in Bolivia. *Development and Change* 41(3): 495–515
- Katrina, A.K. (2011). Self-report questionnaires: Can they collect accurate information? *Journal of Educational Foundations*, 1: 5-12.
- Kenpro (2012). Sample Size Determination Using Krejcie and Morgan Table. Kenya kenpro.org/sample-size-determination-using-krejcie-and-morgan-table/.
- Ketilson, L., Hammond, F., Muny, F.B. & Bold, J. (1992). *Climate for Cooperative Community Development*, Report to the Federal Provincial Task Force on the Role of Cooperatives and Government in Community Development, Saskatoon, University of Saskatchewan.
- Khan, A. & Rahaman, A. (2007). *Impact of Microfinance on Living Standards, Empowerment, and Poverty Alleviation of the Poor People: a Case Study on Microfinance in the Chittagong District of Bangladesh*. Master's Thesis. Department of Business Administration, Umeå School of Business (USB).
- Khan, F. (2010, March). The limits of success? NGOs, microfinance and economic development in Pakistan's Northern areas. *Journal of Asian Public Policy*, 3(1), 53-70. Retrieved from research <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1019&context=nsc>
-
- Khan, M. R. I., & Wichterich, C. (2015). Safety and labour conditions: The accord and the national tripartite plan of action for the garment industry of Bangladesh (Global Labour University Working Paper No. 38). Geneva: International Labour Organization.

- Kilpatrick, S. & Bell, R. (2000). *Support Networks and Trust: How Social Capital Facilitates Learning Outcomes for Small Businesses*. Centre for Research and Learning in Regional Australia, Faculty of Education, University of Tasmania, Australia.
- Khatun, F. (2018). *Can Bangladesh do without foreign aid?* <https://cpd.org.bd/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Can-Bangladesh-do-without-Foreign-Aid.pdf>.
- King, N. & Horrocks, C. (2012). *Interviews in Qualitative Research*. London: Sage.
- Kishor, S. (2000). Empowerment of women in Egypt and links to the survival and health of their infants. In *Women's empowerment and demographic processes*, ed. G.S. Presser and B. Harriet, New York: Oxford University Press.
- Kizos, T.; Plieninger, T.; Iosifides, T.; García-Martín, M.; Girod, G.; Karro, K.; Palang, H.; Printsman, A.; Shaw, B. & Julianna, N. (2018). Responding to landscape change: Stakeholder participation and social capital in five European landscapes. *Land*, 7, 14.
- Klenke, K. (2016). *Qualitative research in the study of leadership*. Emerald Group Publishing Limited.
- Klesner, J.L. 2007. Social capital and political participation in Latin America: evidence from Argentina, Chile, Mexico, and Peru. *Latin American research review*, 42(2): 1-32.
- Kosfeld, M. & von Siemens, A.F. (2011). Competition, cooperation, and corporate culture RAND. *Journal of Economics*, 42(1): 23–43.
- Krejcie, R. V., & Morgan, D. W. (1970). Determining sample size for research activities. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 30(3): 607-610.
- Krishna, A & Uphoff, N. (1999). *Mapping and Measuring Social Capital: A Conceptual and Empirical Study of Collective Action for Conserving and Developing Watersheds in Rajasthan, India*. Social Capital Initiative, Working Paper No. 13, Social Development Family, Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Network, The World Bank.
- Krishnaswami, O.R. (1976). *Democracy in action*. New Delhi: Somaiya Publication.
- Kvale, A & Brinkmann (2009). 'Moving from the Stock of Social Capital to the Flow of Benefits: The Role of Agency.' *World Development*, (29): 925-943.
- Lawson, C. & Klesner, J.L. (2004). *Political Reform, Electoral Participation and the Campaign of 2000*. Stanford University Press and Center for US-Mexican Studies, UCSD, Stanford, California.
- Lee, C.-J., & Sohn, D. (2016). Mapping the social capital research in communication: A bibliometric analysis. *J. Mass Commun. Q.*, 93, 728–749.

- Leedy, P.D. & Ormrod, J.E. (2005). *Practical research: Planning and design*. Prentice Hall Upper Saddle River, NJ.
- Leung, L. (2009). User-generated content on the internet: an examination of gratifications, civic engagement and psychological empowerment. *New Media & Society*, 11(8): 1327-1347.
- Levitte, Y.M. (2003). *Social Capital and Aboriginal Economic Development: Opportunities and Challenges*. University of Toronto, Canada.
- Liao, H.; Tang, M.; Luo, L.; Li, C.; Chiclana, F. & Zeng, X.J. (2018). A bibliometric analysis and visualization of medical big data research. *Sustainability*, 10, 166.
- Lim, V.K.G., Teo, T.S.H. & Loo, G. (2003). Sex, financial hardship and locus of control: an empirical study of attitudes towards money among Singaporean Chinese. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 34: 411-429.
- Lim, Y.Y. (2009). *Empowering the SEMAI people through participation in community development programs*. Master's Thesis. University Putra Malaysia.
- Lin, N. (1999). Building a network theory of social capital. *Connections* 22(1): 28-51.
- Lin, N. (2001). *Social Capital: A Theory of Social Structure and Action*. Cambridge (UK) and New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Lin, R. J., McAllister, D. J. & Ericksson, R. J. (2010). Trust and distrust: New relationships and realities. *Academy Manage. Rev*, 23(3), 438-458.
- Lincoln, J. M. & Guba, K. (1985). Association Meeting Participation: A Test of Competing Models, *Journal of Travel Research*, 46: 300.
- Long, T., & Johnson, M. (2000). Rigour, Reliability and Validity in Qualitative Research. *Clinical effectiveness in nursing*, 4(1), 30-37.
- Lowndes, V. and Wilson, D. (2001). Social capital and local governance: exploring the institutional design variable. *Political Studies*, 49(4): 629-647.
- Luhmann, N. (2000). *Ein Mechanismus der Reduktion sozialer Komplexitat*, UTB, Stuttgart, German.
- Lynda, N.R., Moorthy, A.C. & Selvaduri, S. (2012). Native understanding of participation and empowerment in community development. *Journal of Social Sciences*, (7), 643-648.
- MacKinnon, D.P., Fairchild, A.J. & Fritz, M.S. (2007). Mediation Analysis. *Annual Review Psychology*, 58: 593-614.

- Magigi & Godfery. (2015). Social Capital, Collective Action and Women's Empowerment: An Empirical Study on Micro-finance Groups in Bangladesh. *South Asian Journal of Policy and Governance*, 42(1), 23–48. Retrieved from <https://sjpgjournal.org/index.php/sjpg/article/view/21>
- Mahmud, S., & Johnston, A. M. (1994). Women's status, empowerment, and reproductive outcomes. *Health, Empowerment and Rights*, 4, 151-159.
- Mahtab, N. (2017). *Women in Bangladesh from Inequality to Empowerment*, AH Developing publishing house, 143, New Market, Bangladesh.
- Majabadi, H. A., Solhi, M., Montazeri, A., Shojaeizadeh, D., Nejat, S., Farahani, F. K., & Djazayeri, A. (2016). Factors influencing fast-food consumption among adolescents in Tehran: a qualitative study. *Iranian Red Crescent Medical Journal*, 18(3), 1-9.
- Majee, W. & Hoyt, A. (2009). Building community trust through cooperatives: A case study of a worker-owned homecare cooperative. *Journal of Community Practice*, 17(4): 444–463.
- Majee, W. & Hoyt, A. (2010). Are worker-owned cooperatives the brewing pots for social capital? *Community Development Journal*, 41(4): 417- 430.
- Makgoka, K. P. (2016). *The leadership experiences of female secondary school principals in Sekhukhune District, Limpopo* (Doctoral dissertation).
- Malhotra, A. & Mather, M. (1997). Do schooling and work empower women in developing countries? Gender and domestic decisions in Sri Lanka. *Sociological Forum*, 12: 599–630.
- Malhotra, A., Schuler, S.R. & Boender, C. (2002). *Measuring Women's Empowerment as a Variable in International Development*. Background Paper Prepared for the World Bank Workshop on Poverty and Gender: New Perspectives.
- Malik, F., Chughtai, S., Iqbal, Z., & Ramza, M. (2013). Does Psychological Empowerment Bring About Employee Commitment? *Evidence from Telecommunication Sector of Pakistan* 1: 14-21.
- Malik, N.A. & Luqman, M. (2005). Decision-Making and Poverty Alleviation Potential of Women Practicing homestead Agro-forestry Enterprises. *Bangladesh Journal of Extension Education*, 11 & 12: 115-122.
- Mammadova, A. (2017). Education towards Urban Sustainability: Lessons learned from the welfare business models of Kanazawa city, Japan. *Journal of Teacher Education for Sustainability*, 19(2), 154–164. <https://doi.org/10.1515/jtes-2017-0020>.
- Mann, H.H. (2006). Empowerment in terms of theoretical perspectives: Exploring a typology of the process and components across disciplines. *Journal of community psychology*, 34 (5): 523-540.

- Marschall, M. J., & Stolle, D. (2005). *Seeing or living diversity: contact with diverse others and the development of generalized trust*. *Political Studies*, 49(4): 629- 647.
- Marshall, B., Cardon, P., Poddar, A., & Fontenot, R. (2013). Does sample size matter in qualitative research? A review of qualitative interviews in IS research. *Journal of Computer Information Systems*, 54(1), 11-22.
- Mason, K., & Smith, H. (2003). Women's empowerment and social context: results from five Asian Countries. *Gender and Development Group, World Bank, Washington, DC*.
- Maxwell, J. A. (2012). *Qualitative research design: An interactive approach* (Vol. 41). Sage publications.
- Mayoux, L. (2000). *Micro-Finance and the Empowerment of Women-A Review of the Key Issues*. International Labor Organization, Geneva.
- Mayoux, L. (2001). Tackling the downside: Social capital, women's empowerment and micro-finance in Cameroon. *Development and Change*, 32(3): 435-464.
- McCarthy, J.D. & Zald, M.N. (1977). Resource mobilization and social movements: A partial theory. *The American Journal of Sociology*, 82(6): 1212-1241.
- McIntosh, M. J., & Morse, J. M. (2015). Situating and constructing diversity in Semi structure interviews. *Global Qualitative Nursing Research*, 2, DOI: 2333393615597674.
- Mendelsohn, M. and Parkin, A. (2001). Introduction: Referendum Democracy. In *Referendum Democracy: Citizens, Elites and Deliberation in Referendum Campaigns*, ed. M. Mendelsohn, and A. Parkin. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Menon, S.T. (1999). Psychological empowerment: Definition, measurement, and validation. *Canadian Journal of Behavioral Science/Revue Canadian sciences du comportement*, 31(3): 161-164.
- Merigó, J.M.; Yang, J.B. (2017). Accounting research: A bibliometric analysis. *Aust. Account. Rev*, 27, 71–100.
- Meyer, J. P., Paunonen, S. V., Gellatly, I. R., Goffin, R. D., & Jackson, D. N. (2014). Organizational commitment and job performance: It's the nature of the commitment that counts. *Journal of applied Psychology*, 74(1): 152-156.
- Miao, C., Humphrey, R. H., & Qian, S. (2017). A meta-analysis of emotional intelligence and work attitudes. *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology*, 90(2), 177–202. <https://doi.org/10.1111/joop.12167>
- Michael O.S. (2018). Facilitating women's access to an economic empowerment Initiative: Evidence from Uganda. *World Development*, Volume 138.

- Michaelis, B., Wagner, J. D., & Schweizer, L. (2015). Knowledge as a key in the relationship between high-performance work systems and workforce productivity. *Journal of Business Research*, 68(5): 1035-1044.
- Miles, M. and Shevlin, S.J. (2001). The impact of community computer networks on social capital and community involvement. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 45(3): 496-509.
- Miles, M., B. & Huberman, A. M. (1994). *Qualitative Data Analysis*. (2nd ed.) Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Miller, D. (1998). *Principle of social justice*. Cambridge MA. Harvard University Press.
- Miller, Kristen & DeMaio T. (2006). *Report of Cognitive Research on Proposed American Community Survey Disability Questions*, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC.
- Minola, T., Brumana, M., Garrett, B., & Digan, S. (2016). Social Capital and Innovation in a Life Science Cluster: The Role of Proximity and Family Involvement. *The journal of technology transfer*, 45(1), 205-227 [10.1007/s10961-017-9591-y]
- Mitra, A. (2003). *Occupational choices, networks, and transfers: an exegesis on micro data from Delhi slums*, Manohar Publishers.
- Mitra, A. (2008). Social capital, livelihood and upward mobility. *Habitat International* 32(2): 261-269.
- Moazzem, K. G., & Arfanuzzaman, Md. (2018). *Addressing the livelihood challenges of RMG workers: Exploring scope within the structure of minimum wages and beyond* (CPD Working Paper 122). Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue.
- Mohamed, F.A.S. (2004). *Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Agricultural Development-The Case of Menoufiya Governorate, Egypt*. Development of Menoufiya Governorate, Egypt.
- Mohsen K.N. (2012). *Social capital, Participation in Agricultural Production Cooperatives and Economic Empowerment among Farmers in Isfahan, Iran*. PhD thesis, Department of Social and Developmental Sciences, Faculty of Human Ecology, University Putra Malaysia.
- Moldavanova, A., & Goerdel, H.T. (2018). Understanding the puzzle of organizational sustainability: Toward a conceptual framework of organizational social connectedness and sustainability. *Public Management Review*, 20(1), 55-81 DOI:10.1080/14719037.2017.1293141
- Morris, G. & Barnes, C. (2005). An assessment of the impact of microfinance: A case study from Uganda. *Journal of Microfinance/ESR Review*, 7(1): 39-54.

- Moyle, T., Dollard, M. & Biswas, S. (2006). Personal and Economic Empowerment in Rural Indian Women. *International Journal of Rural Management*, 2(2): 245- 266.
- Mozumdar L., Farid K. S., & P. K. Sarma. (2017). Relevance of social capital in women's business performance in Bangladesh. *J. Bangladesh Agril. Univ.* 15(1): 87-94
- Mridula, B. (1998). Targeting women for development, *University News*, 36(47): 1-6.
- Mahboob, M. A, & Abdullah Abusayed khan. (2017). "Testing The Theory Of Social Networking On Empowerment Of People Specially Women At Two Villages In Bangladesh: A Filed Investigation. *Economy, Business Administration and Tourism Department*, vol. 6(2), pages 1-7
- Murphy, P.W. (2002). *Organizing for Community Controlled Development thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications, Inc.*
- Myers, M. (2000). Qualitative research and the generalizability question: Standing Firm with Proteus. *The Qualitative Report*, 4(3), 1-14.
- Narangajavana, Y.; Gonzalez-Cruz, T.; Garrigos-Simon, F.J.; Cruz-Ros, S. (2016). Measuring social entrepreneurship and social value with leakage. Definition, analysis and policies for the hospitality industry. *Int. J. Entrep. Innov. Manag.* 12, 911-934.
- Narayan, D. (1999). Can anyone hear us? Voices from 47 countries, Voices of the Poor. Volume 1, World Bank Poverty Group, PREM, World Bank, Washington.
- Narayan, D. (2002). Bonds and bridges: social capital and poverty. In *Social Capital and Economic Development: Well-being in Developing Countries*, ed. J. Isham, T. Kelly, and S. Ramaswamy. Cheltenham, UK; Northampton, MA, Edward Elgar.
- Narayan, D. & Cassidy, M.F. (2001). A dimensional approach to measuring social capital: development and validation of a social capital inventory. *Current Sociology*, 49(2): 59.
- Narayan, D. & Pritchett, L. (1999). Cents and Sociability: Household Income and Social Capital in Rural Tanzania. *Economic Development and Cultural change* 47(4): 871-897.
- Nega, F., Mathijs, E., Deckers, J. & Tollens, E. (2009). *Gender, Social capital and Empowerment in northern Ethiopia*. Munich Personal RePEc Archive (MPRA), Mekelle University.
- Nazneen, S. (2018). Binary framings, Islam and struggle for women' empowerment in Bangladesh. *Feminist Dissent*, 3, 194-230.
- Nazneen, S. (2019). *Negotiating gender equity in the global South: The politics of domestic violence policy* (pp. 129-151). London: Routledge.

- Neuman, W. L. (2013). *Social research methods: Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. Pearson education.
- Ngang, T. K., Prachak, B., & Saowanee, T. (2013). Leadership soft skills of deans in three Malaysian public universities. *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 93, 1182-1186.
- Ngofa, G. (2017). *The impact of microfinance on the socioeconomic empowerment of women in Nigeria* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (1508569704).
- Nguyen, T. L. H. (2013). Challenges to and facilitators of female Deans' career advancement in higher education: an exploratory study in Vietnam. *Higher Education*, 66(1), 123-138.
- Niazi, M. (2001). *The Explanation of the obstacles of Social Participation in the City of Kashan, Iran*. PhD Thesis in Sociology, University of Isfahan, Iran.
- Nieminen, T., Martelin, T., Koskinen, S., Simpura, J., Alanen, E. & Härkänen, T. (2008). Measurement and socio-demographic variation of social capital in a large population-based survey. *Social Indicators Research*, 85(3): 405-423.
- Nikkah, H. & Marof, R. (2009). Participation as a Medium of Empowerment in Community Development. *European Journal of Social Sciences*, 11(1): 170- 176.
- Nikkah, H.A. & Abu-Samah, A. (2010). The Effect of Women's Socio- demographic Variables on their Empowerment. *Journal of American Science*, 6(11):426- 434.
- Norris, P. & Welzel. (2002). Making democracies work: Social capital and civic engagement in 47 societies. *Rusel Papers-Civic Series*, 3: 34-69.
- Novel, S., Sivapalan, S., Er, A.C., Fuad, M.J., Zaidah, M., Aishah & Buang, A. (2011). Intangible factors influencing gender differences in educational attainment using an abdicative research strategy. *World Applied Science Journal*, (13): 46- 52.
- Nusbaum, L., Douglas, B., Damus, K., Paasche-Orlow, M., & Estrella-Luna, N. (2017). Communicating risks and benefits in informed consent for research: A qualitative study. *Global Qualitative Nursing Research*, 4. DOI: 2333393617732017.
- Offe, C. (1999). How can we trust our fellow citizens? In *Democracy and Trust*. ed. M.E. Warren, pp 42-87. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- O'Leary, Z. (2017). *The essential guide to doing your research project*. Sage.
- Olson, M. (1982). *The rise and decline of nations: Economic growth, stagflation, and economic rigidities*. Yale University Press, New Haven and London.
- Omo Corbetta, F. C. (2003). Integrated Rural Development Planning in Nigeria: A Spatial Dimension. *Cahiers d, Etudes Africaene*, 20:83-95.

- Omona, J. (2013). Sampling in qualitative research: Improving the Quality of Research Outcomes in Higher Education. *Makerere Journal of Higher Education*, 4(2), 169-185.
- Omoro, P. A., Shitandi, A., Bitonga, R. O., & Basweti, E. (2014). Determination of farmer's choice of fertilizer application rate and its effect on the greenhouse technology performance in gusii highlands, Kenya. *International Journal of Agricultural Extension*, 2(1): 35-41.
- Osirim, M.J. (2001). Making Good on Commitments to Grassroots Women: NGOs and Empowerment for Women in Contemporary Zimbabwe. *Women Studies International Forum*, 24(2): 167-180.
- Ostrom, E. (1998). A behavioral approach to the rational choice theory of collective action: Presidential address, American Political Science Association. *The American Political Science Review*, 92(1): 1-22.
- Pallant, J. (2007). *SPSS Survival Manual: A Step by Step Guide to Data Analysis*. Using SPSS for Windows Version 15, Open University Press.
- Panth (2010). Women's Empowerment and the Creation of Social Capital in Indian Villages. *World Development*, Elsevier, vol. 38(7), pages 974-988, July.
- Papoliyazdi, M. H. (2002). Rural Development Theories, Tehran, Samt Publication, Pp. 121-124
- Parveen, S. (2005). Women Empowerment Performance of Income Generating Activities Supported by Rural Women Employment participatory education, and health. *Health Education Quarterly*, 21(2): 141- 148.
- Parveen, S., & Leonhäuser, I. (2005). *Empowerment of rural women in Bangladesh: a household level analysis*: Margraf.
- Parvin, G.A., Ahsan S.M.R., & Chowdhury, M.R. (2005). *Women Empowerment Performance of Income Generating Activities Supported by Rural Women Employment Creation Project (RWECP): A Case Study in Dumuria Thana*. MS dissertation, Khulna university, Bangladesh.
- Parizi, M. I. (2015). *Management of Organizational Behavior*. Tehran: Management Training Researches Institution.
- Parpart, J.L., Rai, S. M., & Staudt, K.A. (Eds.). (2004). Rethinking empowerment: Gender and development in a global/local world (Vol.3). 134-141. UK: Routledge Press.
- Patton, M. Q. (2002). Two decades of developments in qualitative inquiry: A personal, experiential perspective. *Qualitative social work*, 1(3), 261-283.
- Perkins, D.D. & Zimmerman, M.A. (1995). Empowerment theory, research, and application. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 23(5): 569-579.

- Peterson, N.A. & Zimmerman, M. (2004). Beyond the individual: Toward a homological network of organizational empowerment. *Journal of community Psychology*, 34(1-2): 129-145.
- Phillips, R. & Pittman, R. (2009). *An introduction to community development*. Routledge.
- Phillips, S. (2002). Social capital, local networks and community development. In *Urban Livelihoods: A People-Centered Approach to Reducing Poverty*, ed. C. Rakodi and T. Liyod-Jones, pp. 3–22. Earthscan Publications Ltd.
- Phongsavan, P., Chey, T., Bauman, A., Brooks, R., & Silove, D. (2006). Social capital, socio-economic status and psychological distress among Australian adults. *Social Science & Medicine*, 63(10), 2546-2561.
- Phyllis Mumia Machio, Patrick Chege Kariuki, Alice Muthoni Ng'ang'a, Micheal Muriigi Njoroge (2020). Social capital and women's empowerment in kenya: A case study of Murang'a County. *Quarterly Journal of International Agriculture*, 51 (1), 73-96.
- Pinderhughes, E.B. (1983). Empowerment for our clients and for ourselves. *Social Case work*, 64(6): 331–338.
- Piran, P. (2001). Socio-cultural aspects of reproductive health in 5 Villages. Tehran, UNFPA (in Persian). *The Journal of Politics*, 18(2): 103-120.
- Polit, D. F., & Beck, C. T. (2010). Generalization in quantitative and qualitative research: Myths and strategies. *International journal of nursing studies*, 47(11), 1451-1458.
- Popov, E. & Vlasov, M. (2018). Assessment of Intellectual Development of the Human Capital of Hi-Tech Productions. *Montenegrin J. Econ.*, 14, 121–131.
- Portes, A. (1998). Social Capital: Its Origins and Applications in Modern Sociology. *Annual Review of Sociology*, (24): 1-24.
- Portes, A. and Landolt, P. (1996). Unsolved Mysteries: The Tocqueville Files II: The Downside of Social Capital. *American Prospect*, 7(26): 18-23.
- Portes, A. and Patricia, L. (2000). Social Capital: Promise and Pitfalls of its Role in Development. *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 32(3): 529-547.
- Poteete, A.R. and Ostrom, E. 2004. In Pursuit of Comparable Concepts and Data about collective action. *Agricultural systems*, 82(3): 215-232.
- Pradhan, B. (2003). Measuring empowerment: a methodological approach. *Development*, 46(2), 51-57.
- Presser, H. B., & Sen, G. (2000). *Women's empowerment and demographic processes: moving beyond Cairo*: Oxford University Press, USA.

- Pretty, J. (2003). Social capital and the collective management of resources. *Science Journal*, 302(5652):1912-1914.
- Pretty, J.N. (1994). Alternative systems of inquiry for Sustainable Agriculture. IDS.
- Probst, K., Haggmann, J., Becker, T. & Fernandez, M. (2000). *Developing a framework for participatory research approaches in risk prone diverse environments*, Proceedings, Deutscher Tropentag, University of Hohenheim.
- Productivity Commission of Australia. (2003). *The Women Empowerment Approach: A Methodological Guide*. Commission on Women and Development, Rue des Petits Carmes, Bruxelles.
- Putnam, R.D. (1993). *Making democracy work: Civic traditions in modern Italy*, Princeton. Princeton University Press.
- Putnam, R.D. (2000). *Introduction to social research: Quantitative and qualitative approaches (2nd edition.)*. London: SAGE.
- Putnam, R.D. (2001). *Bowling alone: The collapse and revival of American Community*, Simon and Schuster, New York.
- Putnam, R.D. (2002). *Democracies in Flux: The Evolution of Social Capital in Contemporary Society*. Oxford and New York, Oxford University Press.
- Putnam, R.D. (2009). Tuning in, Tuning out: The Strange Disappearance of Social Capital in America. *Journal of Political Science and Politics*, 28(4): 664-683.
- Quilan, C., (2011) *Business Research Methods*. 1st ed, Hampshire, Cengage Learning.
- Quisumbing, A.R. & McClafferty, B. (2006). *Using Gender Research in Development: Food Security in Practice*. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC.
- Rahman, M., Billah, M. M., & Hack-Polay, D. (2019). What is hindering change? Anticipating the challenges to the adoption of enzyme-based textile processing in a developing country. *Business Strategy & Development*, 2(2).1-11.
- Rahman, M.H. & Naoroze, K. (2007). Women Empowerment through Participation in Aquaculture: Experience of a Large-scale Technology Demonstration Project. *Bangladesh Journal of Social Science*, 3(4): 164-171.
- Rakodi, C. (1991). Developing institutional capacity to meet the housing needs of the urban poor: experience in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. *Cities* 8(3): 228-243.
- Rasheed, M. H. (2017). *Breaking the silence: Experimenting with creative approaches to ESL classrooms in a rural Bangladesh*. (Doctoral thesis). University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand.

- Ratha, D., Eigen-Zucchi, C & Plaza, S. (2016). *Migration and Remittances Factbook* 2016: (3rd Edition). World Bank Publications.
- Razavi, S. (2016). The 2030 Agenda: Challenges of implementation to attain gender equality and women's rights. *Gender & Development*, 24(1), 25–41.
- Reddy & Rao. (1995). *Women organization and power structure*, Chugh Publication, Allahabad, India.
- Reid, J.N. & Salman (2000). *Community Participation: How People Power Brings Sustainable benefits to community*. Technical report, Department of Agriculture (General), Washington, DC.
- Reid, J.N. (2000). *Community Participation: How People Power Brings Sustainable benefits to community*. Technical report, Department of Agriculture (General), Washington, DC.
- Reyes-Gonzalez, L.; Gonzalez-Brambila, C.N., & Veloso, F. (2016). Using co-authorship and citation analysis to identify research groups: A new way to assess performance. *Scientometrics*, 108, 1171–1191.
- Ritchie, J., Lewis, J., & Elam, G. (2003). *Designing and selecting samples*. In Jane Ritchie & Jane Lewis (Eds.), *Qualitative research practice. A guide for social science students and researchers* (77-108) Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Robinson, H. J & Christesn (2000). *Renewing Hope within Neighborhoods of Despair: The Community-based Development Model*. Albany, NY: Sate University of New York Press.
- Roberts, A. (2015). The political economy of “transnational business feminism. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 17(2), 209-231. doi:10.1080/14616742.2013.849968
- Roncolato L., & Willoughby J. (2017) Job Quality Complexities: Self-employment within the Low-income Communities Surrounding Cape Town, South Africa. *Review of Radical Political Economics*, 49: 30-53.
- Rondeau, G. (2000). Empowerment and Social Practice, or the Issue of Power in Social Work. *Canadian Social Work, Special Issue: Social Work and Globalization* 2(1): 216–222.
- Rose, R. (2002). Uses of social capital in Russia: Modern, pre-modern, and anti-modern, *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 16(1): 33-57.
- Rost, K., Teichert., & T.Pilkington, A. (2017). Social network analytics for advanced bibliometrics: Referring to actor roles of management journals instead of journal rankings. *Scientometrics*, 112, 1631–1657.
- Rowland, J. (1995). Empowerment examined. *Development in Practice*, 5 (2): 101-107.

- Rowlands, J. (1998). A word of the times, but what does it mean? Empowerment in the discourse and practice of development. In *Women and empowerment: Illustrations from the Third World*, ed. Afshar and Haleh, New York: St. Martin's Press.
- Sach, A. J; Israel, B. A; Zimmerman, M. A. & Teksoz, K. N. (2017). Empowerment as a Multi-level Construct: Perceived Control at the Individual, Organizational and Community Levels Health Education Research. *Theory & Practice*, 10(3), 309-327.
- Saegert, S. & Winkel, G. (1998). Social capital and the revitalization of New York City's distressed inner-city housing. *Housing Policy Debate. Fannie Mae Foundation*, 9(1): 17–60.
- Saegert, S., Thompson, J.P. & Warren, M. (2001). *Social Capital and Poor Communities*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Safiya . (2011). "The Empirics of Social Capital and Economic Development: A Critical Perspective." in *FEEEM Working Paper No. 15*: Euricse.
- Said, H. B. M., Izharuddin, A. F. B., Idris, I. B., & Othman, H. B. (2018). Examining the Relationships between Perceived Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use, Enjoyment and Self-Efficacy on Employees Behavioral Intention towards Adopting Online Technology Application at Workplace: A Case in Malaysia. *American Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 3(1): 29-39.
- Samah, B.A.S., Shaffril, H.A.M., Hassan, M.A. and D'Silva, J.L. (2011). Can technology acceptance model be applied on the rural setting: The case of village development and security committee in Malaysia. *Journal of Social Sciences*, (7):113-119.
- Sambangi, D. (2009). Self-help groups as an effective strategy and double approach to empower women in India. Policy Review, UNICEF program.
- Sandelowski, M. (1995). Qualitative analysis: What it is and how to begin. *Research in nursing & health*, 18(4), 371-375.
- Saqib Najia, Priyanka Aggarwal & Ms. Saima Rashid (2016). Women Empowerment and Economic Growth: Empirical Evidence from Saudi Arabia. *Advances in Management & Applied Economics*, vol. 6, no. 5, 2016, 79-92 ISSN: 1792- 7544 (print version), 1792-7552 (online).
- Sargeant, S. L. (2012). Empowerment of women : Its scope in a bilateral development project – A small-scale irrigation project in North Bengal. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 26 (17) : 27-35.
- Sarker. S.L. (2005). Empowerment of women through social mobilization. *Women's Link*, 4(2):12.

- Saunders, M. N., & Lewis, P. (2012). *Doing research in business & management: An essential guide to planning your project*. Pearson.
- Saunders, M., Lewis, P., & Thornhill, A. (2009). *Research methods for business students*. Pearson education.
- Schulz, A.J., Israel, B.A., Zimmerman, M.A. and Checkoway, B.N. (1995). Empowerment as a Multi-level Construct: Perceived Control at the Individual, Organizational and Community Levels Health Education Research. *Theory & Practice*, 10(3): 309-327.
- Schwadel, P. & Stout, M. (2012). Age, Period and Cohort Effects on Social Capital. *Social Forces*, 91 (1), pp. 233-252
- Seale, C. (1999). *Quality in qualitative research*. *Qualitative Inquiry*, 5(4), 465-478. security committee in Malaysia. *Journal of Social Sciences*, (7): 113-119.
- Segura, G.M., Pachon, H. and Woods, N.D. 2001. Hispanics, social capital, and civic engagement. *National Civic Review*, 90(1): 85-96.
- Seibert, S.E., Kraimer, M.L. & linden, R.C., (2001). A Social capital theory of career success. *Academy of management journal*, 44 (2), pp. 219-237.
- Sekaran, U. (2006). *Research methods for business: A skill building approach*. John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
- Sen , A., (2001). *The idea of Justice*. Massachusetts: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge.
- Serrat, O. (2008). *The Sustainable Livelihoods Approach*. Knowledge Management Center, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank. Manila, Philippines.
- Shah, T. (1995). *Making Farmers' Cooperatives Work: Design, Government, and Management*. London: Sage Publications.
- Sham, S. (2001). *Developing Urban Sustainability Indicators for Malaysia*. Public Lecture LESTARI No.3, Institut Alam Sekitar dan Pembangunan, Universiti Kebangsaan. Malaysia.
- Shan, H., Muhajarine, N., Lopston, K. & Jeffery, B. (2012). Building social capital as a pathway to success: community development practices of an early childhood intervention program in Canada. *Heath Promotion International*, 27 (4).
- Shariful Islam S., & Mainuddin A. (2015). Relationship between income generating activities of rural women and their reproductive health behavior in Bangladesh. *Rural and Remote Health*, 15: 3216. <https://doi.org/10.22605/RRH3216>

- Shashikala, S. (2007). Promoting urban social development through self help groups in Karnataka. Evaluation report of Karnataka urban infrastructure department project in India. *Asian Development Bank (ADB), Evaluation working paper*.
- Shen, Y. (2016). A literature analysis of social capital's transnational diffusion in Chinese sociology. *Curr. Sociol. Journal*, 64, 815–832.
- Sherraden, M. (2005). *Inclusion in the American Dream: Assets, poverty and public policy*, Oxford University Press, USA.
- Shiree. (2016). *The state of extreme poverty in Bangladesh: learning and outcomes from the shiree programme*. SHIREE.
- Sibusiso, D.M. (2010). *A process of empowerment through self help group for divorced women*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, university of Zululand, South Africa.
- Smith, J.P. & Thomas, D. (2003). Remembrances of things past: Test–retest reliability of retrospective migration histories. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, 166(1): 23-49.
- Siddiqi, D. M. (2015). Starving for justice: Bangladeshi garment workers in a “Post-Rana Plaza” world. *International Labor and Working-Class History*, 87, 165–173
- Siddiqi, D. M. (2017). Before Rana Plaza: A history of labour organizing in Bangladesh's garments industry. In V. Crinis & A. Vickers (Eds.), *Labour in the clothing industry in the Asia Pacific* (pp. 60–79). Abingdon and New York, NY: Routledge.
- Smith, B., & McGannon, K. R. (2018). Developing rigor in qualitative research: Problems and opportunities within sport and exercise psychology *International review of sport and exercise psychology*, 11(1), 101-121.
- Snijders, T. (2009). Prologue to the measurement of social capital. *La Revue Tocqueville* 20(1): 27-44.
- Sogunro, O. A. (2002). Selecting a Quantitative or Qualitative Research Methodology: An Experience. *Educational Research Quarterly*, 26(1), 3-10.
- Sotiriadou, P., Brouwers, J., & Le, T.-A. (2014). Choosing a qualitative data analysis tool: a comparison of NVivo and Leximancer. *Annals of Leisure Research*, 17(2), 218–234.
- Spreitzer, G.M. (1995). Psychological empowerment in the workplace: Dimensions, measurement, and validation. *The Academy of Management Journal*, 38(5): 1442-1465.
- Spreitzer, G.M., Kizilos, M.A. & Nason, S.W. (2005). A dimensional analysis of the relationship between psychological empowerment and effectiveness, satisfaction, and strain. *Journal of Management*, 23(5): 679-704.

- Stanton-Salazar, R. D. (2004). Social capital among working-class minority students. In *School Connections: U.S. Mexican Youth, Peers, and School Achievement*, ed. M.A. Gibson, P. Gándara, and J.P. Koyama, New York: Teachers College Press, Columbia University.
- Streatfield, P. K., Kamal, N., Ahsan, K. Z., & Nahar, Q. (2015). Early marriage in Bangladesh. *Asian Population Studies*, 11(1), 94–110
- Steele, F., Amin, S. & Naved, R.T. (2001). Savings/Credit Group Formation and Change in Contraception. *Demography*, 38(2): 267-282.
- Stephens, B. & Tazi, H. (2006). Performance and transparency: A survey of micro-finance in South Asia, Micro banking Bulletin. World Bank.
- Stone, W. (2001). *Measuring social capital: Towards a theoretically informed measurement framework for researching social capital in family and community life*, Research Paper No. 24, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Queen Street, Melbourne, Australia.
- Stone, W. & Hughes, J. 2002. *Social capital: empirical meaning and measurement Validity*. Research Paper No. 27, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne, Australia.
- Strauss, A., & Corbin, J. (1998). *Basics of Qualitative Research*. Thousand Oaks, students. Pearson education.
- Sugana, B. (2006). *Empowerment of Rural Women through Self Help Groups*. New Dehli, India: Discovery Publishing House.
- Sullivan, T. J. (2001). *Methods of Social Research*. Harcourt College Publishers.
- Sultana, A.M. (2010). Patriarchy and Women's Gender Ideology: A Socio-Cultural Perspective. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 6(1): 123-126.
- Swain, J. (2018). A Hybrid Approach to Thematic Analysis in Qualitative Research: tool: a comparison of NVivo and Leximancer. *Annals of Leisure Research*, Usinga Practical Example. Sage research methods.
- Tavakoli, M., Heydari, A. and Shahmordi, L. (2011). Analysis of the situation of social capital resources in rural development: A case study of the central city of Nour Abad Mamsani, Iran. *Journal of Geography and Regional Planning*, 4 (10): 578-585.
- Taylor-Powell, E. & Herman, C. (2000). *Collecting evaluation data surveys*. University of Wisconsin-Extension. Madison. Wisconsin.
- Teddlie, C. & Yu, Fenyu. (2007). Mixed methods sampling a typology with examples. *Journal of mixed methods research*, 1(1): 77-100.

- Theodoropoulou, H. & Kaldis, P. (2008). Changes in rural areas and regional development. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 4: 275-279.
- Thomas, K.W. & Velthouse, B.A. (1990). Cognitive elements of empowerment. *Academy of management review*, 15(4): 666-681.
- Thorne, S. (2016). *Interpretive description: Qualitative research for applied practice*. Routledge.
- Turner, S. G., & Maschi, T. M. (2015). Feminist and empowerment theory and social work practice, *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 29(2), 151-162, doi:10.1080/02650533.2014.941282
- Turner & Turner. W. (2012). Qualitative interview design: A practical guide for novice investigators. *The qualitative Report*, 15(3), 754-760.
- Ullah A.K.M.A. & Routray, J.K. (2007). Rural Poverty Alleviation through NGO Interventions in Bangladesh: how far is the Achievement? *International Journal of Social Economics*, 34(4): 237-248.
- Ulriksen, S., Gourlay, C., & Mace, C. (2004). Operation Artemis: the shape of things to come? *International Peacekeeping*, 11(3), 508-525.
- UNDP. (2018). The Sustainable Development Goals Report. Retrieved from <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2018/thesustainabledevelopmentgoalsreport2018.pdf>
- UNIFEM. (1998). *Gender Considerations in Sectoral Planning for Pacific Island Planners in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*, UNIFEM Pacific Regional Office, Suva, Fiji.
- United Nation (1981). *Popular Participation as a Strategy for Promoting Community Action and National Development*, Department of international Economic and Social Affairs. New York, USA.
- United Nations. (2015). *Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. United Nations. Retrieved from [https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030 Agenda for Sustainable Development web. Pdf.](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf)
- United Nations (2018), Meeting our commitments to gender equality in education. Retrieved August 20, 2018 from: [http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002615/261593e.pdf.](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002615/261593e.pdf)
- Uslaner, E. (2002). *The moral foundations of trust*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

- Uwizeyimana, D. E., & Mathevula, N. S. (2018). Factors contributing to female educators' underrepresentation in school management positions in Lulekani Circuit, Limpopo Province, South Africa. *International Journal of Indian Culture and Business Management*, 16(1), 71-98.
- Vaicekauskaite, R., & Valackiene, A. (2018). The need for entrepreneurial education at university. *Journal of Teacher Education for Sustainability*, 20(1), 82-92. <https://doi.org/10.2478/jtes-2018-0005>.
- Vaughn, P., & Turner, C. (2016). Decoding via coding: Analyzing qualitative text Data through thematic coding and survey methodologies. *Journal of Library Administration*, 56(1), 41-51.
- Vida, A.B. (2011). Empowerment of women through participation in women self-help groups in the kumasi metropolis. *Unpublished Master's thesis*, University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana.
- Vijayanthi, K. (2002). Women's Empowerment Through Self-help Groups: A Participatory Approach. *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, 9(2): 263.
- Wadsworth, J. (2001). Keep the coops Candle Burning, Effective Member Relations Essential to Keep Coop Spirit Alive and Kicking, Rural Cooperative.
- Wakefield & Blake, P. (2005). Family, Friend or Foe? Critical Reflections on the Relevance and Role of Social Capital in Health Promotion and Community Development. *Social Science & Medicine*, 60: 2819-2832.
- Wallis, J., Killerby, P. and Dollery, B. (2004). Social economics and social capital. *International Journal of Social Economics*, 31(3): 239-258.
- Welzel, C. (2003). Effective Democracy, Mass Culture, and the Quality of Elites: The Human Development Perspective. *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*, 43: 269-8.
- Westergaard K. (1986). *People's participation, Local government and Rural Development: The Case of West Bengal, India*. CDR Research Report-8, Centre for Development Research, Copenhagen.
- Williams, E. N., & Morrow, S. L. (2009). Achieving trustworthiness in qualitative research: A pan-paradigmatic perspective. *Psychotherapy research*, 19(4-5), 576-582.
- Wilson, P.N. (2000). Social capital, trust, and the agribusiness of economics. *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 25(1): 1-13.
- Woolcock, M. (1998). Social Capital and Economic Development: Toward a Theoretical Synthesis and Policy Framework. *Theory and Society*, 27(2): 151- 208.
- Woolcock, M. (2000). *Friends in High Places? An Overview of Social Capital*. Development Research Group. World Bank, Washington.

- Woolcock, M. (2001). The Place of Social Capital in Understanding Social and Economic Outcomes. *Canadian Journal of Policy Research*, 2(1): 11-17.
- Woolcock, M. (2002). Social capital in theory and practice: where do we stand? In *Social capital and economic development*, ed. J. Isham, T. Kelly, and S. Ramaswamy, pp. 18–39. UK: Edward Elgar.
- Woolcock, M. (2005). Empowerment at the local level: Issues, Responses and Assessments'. In *Power, Rights and Poverty: Concepts and Connections*, ed. R. Alsop, pp. 111-117, Washington DC, Oxford University Press.
- Woolcock, M. & Narayan, D. (2002). Social Capital: Implications for Development theory, Research, and Policy. *The World Bank Research Observer*, 15(2): 225-249.
- World Bank (2019). Haiti: Country profile. Retrieved from <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/haiti>
- World Bank. (1994). *The World Bank and Participation*. Operations Policy Department. Washington, DC. World Bank.
- World Bank. (2001). *Social Development in Europe and Central Asia Region: Issues and Directions*. Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development, Social Development Team, Europe and Central Asia, World Bank, Washington, DC.
- World Bank. (2002). *Measurement of Social Capital: An Integrated Questionnaire*.
- World Bank Working Paper No-18, Washington, DC.
- World Bank. (2003). *Community Driven Development*, Chapter-9, Core Techniques and Cross-Cutting Issues, World Bank, Washington DC.
- World Bank. (2005). *The World Bank and Participation*. Operations Policy Department, World Bank, Washington, DC.
- World Bank. (2006). *Economics and Governance of Nongovernmental Organizations in Bangladesh*, Bangladesh Development series, Paper no.11, World Bank, Washington, DC.
- World Bank. (2001). *Social Development in Europe and Central Asia Region: Issues and Directions*. Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development, Social Development Team, Europe and Central Asia, World Bank, Washington, DC.
- World Bank. (2005). *The World Bank and Participation*. Operations Policy Department, World Bank, Washington, DC.
- Yahya, M. M., & Mutarubukwa, P. A. (2017). Challenges facing women leaders amongst local and central government authorities in Tanzania. *Business Education Journal*, 1(3), 1-11.

- Yin, R. K. (2011). *Case study research: design and methods*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Yokoyama, H. & Akira, S. (2006). *Impact of Fadama farming in Damari, Sabuwa local Government Katsina State*. (a research project; unpublished). Isa Kaita College of Education, Dutsinma, Katsina State-Nigeria.
- Yount, K.M., James-Hawkins L., Cheong Y.F. & Naved, R.T. (2018). Men's perpetration of partner violence in Bangladesh: Community gender norms and violence in childhood. *Psychol Men Masc*, 19: 117-130.
- Zainudin, H.A. (2012). *Research methodology and data analysis (2nd Ed.)*. Kuala Lumpur: UiTM Press, Malaysia.
- Zamawe, F. C. (2015). The implication of using NVivo software in qualitative data analysis: Evidence-based reflections. *Malawi Medical Journal*, 27(1), 13-15.
- Zeidler, L. (2007). Gender differences in burnout, empowerment and Somatic symptoms among health professionals: moderators and mediators. *Equal Opportunities International*, 20 (1/2): 39-48.
- Zeza, A. (2007). Rural Income Generating Activities in Developing Countries: Re-assessing the Evidence. *Journal of Agricultural and Development Economics*, 4(1): 146-193.
- Zikmund, W. G., Babin, B. J., Carr, J. C., & Griffin, M. (2010). *Business research methods*. Cengage Learning.
- Zimmerman, M., Israel, B.A., Schulz, A. & Checkoway, B. (1992). Further explorations in empowerment theory: An empirical analysis of psychological empowerment. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 20(6): 707-727.
- Zimmerman, M.A. (1995). Psychological Empowerment: Issues and Illustrations. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 23(5): 581-599.
- Zomorrodian, A. (2016). Social responsibility and social change: How to engage in public policy process via social entrepreneurship. Las Vegas NV: A paper presented at 23rd Annual National Conference for the American Society of Business and Behavioral Science. Retrieved from http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=1582286
- Zulfiqar, B. (2017, October 14). *Women & Economy: The Politics of Empowerment in Pakistan*. Diambil kembali dari Support Imran Khan: <http://www.supportimrankhan.org/Articles/story.aspx?&id=53>